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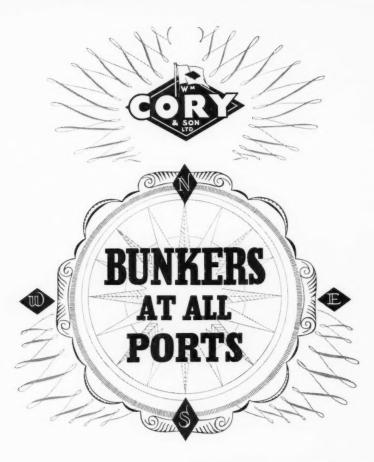
AND SHIPBUILDING & MARINE ENGINEERING NEWS



VOL. CXXV No. 3039

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1951

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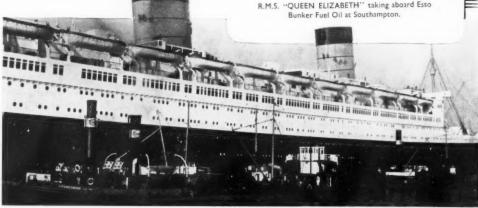
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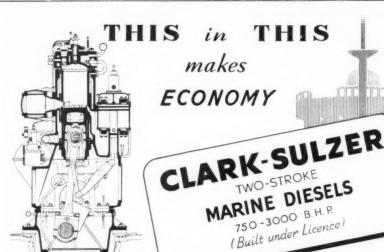
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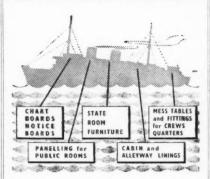
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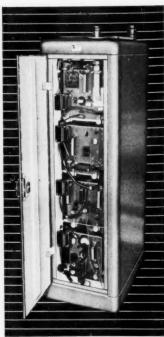


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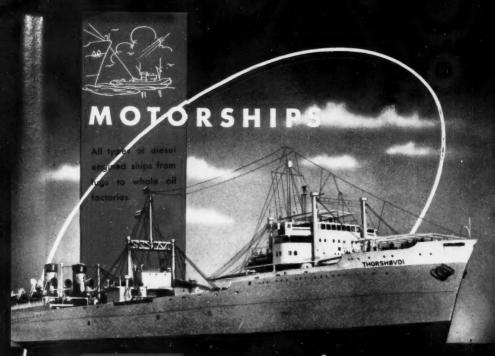
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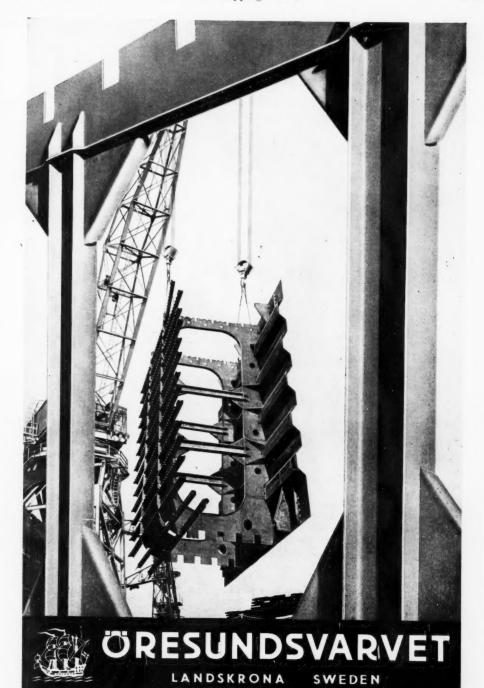
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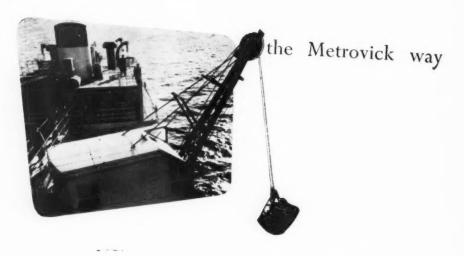
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1883

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1		191	4	1	193	9	1951		
INCOME TAX in £	£.	s.	d. 8	£.	s. 5	d. 6	£.	s. 9	d. 6
CIGARETTES per lb .		5	8		18	7	3	3	8
TOBACCO per lb		3	$8\frac{1}{2}$		13	61/2	2	18	$2^{\frac{1}{2}}$
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THE SHIPPING WORLD

GETTING DOWN TO BRASS TACKS

Business men, whatever their private opinions may be, are not politicians in their offices. concern is that they shall be permitted to conduct their affairs, without unnecessary interference by the State, in accordance with the principles which made this country the workshop of the world and enabled it to secure supremacy at sea. Consequently they are opposed to nationalisation of industry, any controls which are not ess-atial, and to a level of taxation that restricts enterprise. This is the most heavily taxed nation in the world and for that reason it is seriously handicapped in competing in the world's markets. It will be recalled that the latest White Paper on National Income showed that taxation per head had risen from £18 17s. 9d. in 1938-39 to £72 12s. 7d. in 1950-51 (estimated). The burden of taxation is far greater than during the war. The following figures, abstracted from the report of the Bank for Inter-national Settlement, 1950, show tax revenue of all public authorities (Central Government, Local Government and Social Security contributions), as a percentage of net national income in various countries in 1949 :- United Kingdom 42.5 per cent, United States of America 28 per cent, Belgium 34.5, Denmark 26.5, France 33.5, Netherlands 33.5, Sweden 34 and Switzerland 19 per cent. In fact, United Kingdom taxation in 1949 (central and local) took some 43.5 per cent of national income, which is the equivalent of nearly 8s. 9d. in the £. The first task of a new Government must be to reduce taxation, and that can be done by cutting down expenditure on inessential services.

The second task of a new Government must be to restore the iron and steel industry to private enterprise. To that policy both the Conservatives and Liberals are definitely pledged. They are also pledged to review the creaking machinery of all the basic industries which have been nationalised. The policy has failed and consequently even Mr. Attlee, Mr. Morison and many of their colleagues have declared themselves opposed, at the present juncture, to any further adventures in State ownership and control. No one can honestly claim that any of the national boards has been a success in administration. The workers have been disillusioned and the country has

had to face increasing losses under the regime of State monopoly. All monopolies, whether by Government or private concerns, are bad for the community and particularly for one which must keep its prices as low as possible if it is to compete in the world's markets. In any event, our future as a sea-dependent people must be precarious in the new conditions of trade which are emerging as a result of the peace treaties with Japan and Germany. We must produce more at competitive prices if we are to pay for our essential imports of food and raw materials. The new Government must, as has been stated, cut down taxation, and it must also lift any unnecessary controls on enterprise and encourage investors to provide "risk capital." The illusion that profits are made at the expense of the workers must be exposed. It must be recognised that capital and labour are not enemies, but partners, and that there must be a fair showing of the proceeds of industry. If the trade union leaders would abandon their politics and recognise their real mission, it would not be difficult to increase production to such an extent that our export trade would expand and shops would be full of goods at reasonable prices.

Whatever may be the result of the General Election. we have a hard road before us. But if greater freedom is given to the individual to do the best for himself and thus benefit his fellows, conditions can be greatly improved. If we are to survive, the electors must realise that politics and business do not, and never can, mix. That is a lesson which politicians of all parties must learn if we are to survive. If the Government continues to interfere in business affairs, we can never expect to triumph over our difficulties, for such interference means frustration. The sphere of any Government, whatever its political character, must be to keep taxation down to a minimum, stimulate production, and to see fair play between all concerned. Moreover, Ministers must not, as the present Ministers have done, forget that we live in an island and that ships, and therefore shipyards, are essential to our survival in peace and in war. Sea-air power is our lifeblood and we must maintain that power as a matter of prestige in the world, as well as of bread and butter. We must, in short, get down to brass tacks.

Current Events

Working and Saving

Whatever the result of the General Election, the economic situation will remain the same, more serious perhaps than at any time in our history. The root cause of our troubles is that there is little incentive to work and little incentive to save, so we are living beyond our income. The wage earner who puts his back into his job is often in danger of becoming unpopular with his fellows, if not also with trade union leaders, for the tradition persists that, in these days of

full employment, unemployment is the penalty of working hard. If a man persists in putting in a good day's work for a good day's pay, the Chancellor of the Exchequer takes no small part of the contents of his pay packet from him. There is much talk of higher productivity, but it is largely eyewash because the incentives to bigger output have been swept away. Restrictive practices, which may once have been a protection to the workers, are persisted in. In the coming campaign, will any politician of any party dare

tell men and women in shipyard, engine room and factory that they are doing themselves an injury by not king harder and thus bringing down prices? little more work would work miracles. Since from 80 to 90 per cent of the price of a merchant ship represents wages on the long line of production from the mine to the berth at the waterside, it is obvious that very little effort is needed to bring down the cost. The competitive capacity of the industry would be increased in the world's markets and shipowners would have more profits out of which to pay more money to officers and men and, of course, the shipyard workers would them-selves ultimately be better off. If only the fear of unemployment and the suspicion of employers could be removed, costs would come down to the benefit of everyone. There is a good deal of talk of the Welfare State, but no one can fare well so long as employers and employees form two camps. The aim should be to find a common policy to secure higher production under a guarantee that everyone would benefit by cooperating to a common end. Any such concordat would involve sacrifices on both sides of industry, but, if the trade unions, following the American example, admitted that reasonable profits were an incentive to higher efficiency and if employers, as the most enlightened among them are prepared to do, gave an undertaking that the workers would also be the gainers, this country's output of goods and services would speedily mount up. If that movement were accompanied by a pruning of Government expenditure so as to reduce taxation, we should be well on the road to the recovery of industrial supremacy. At present we are spending more than we are earning and the end of the road must be disaster. But there is still time for reform. We have much in our favour and we need only the will to work and to save to assure our salvation. Perhaps the General Election will show that the electors put country before party and then we can be in good heart.

A United Front

THERE is no industry in the country in which such good relations exist as that of shipping. Under the auspices of the National Maritime Board, owners, officers and men thrash out their various problems, paying respect to their varying points of view, with the result that peace is preserved. The result is that on the larger issues of policy the various organisations see, to a large extent, eye to eye. While credit is due to the shipowners, no less credit is due to the Officers' (Merchant Navy) Federation and to the National Union of Seamen. As the last report of the N.U.S. showed, the leaders of that society realise that if their members are to be employed and continue to enjoy the present wages and conditions of service, the efficiency of the wages and conditions of service, the efficiency of the ships must be such that they can hold their own on the trade routes in face of any competition. The Council of the Officers' Federation is of the same mind. In the annual report, it is stated that they have noted with concern the continued warnings given by those best qualified to speak that the ever-increasing cost of replacing ships approaching the end of their opera-tional lives, of which the Merchant Navy has all too many, is rapidly approaching the point when new vessels are being ordered which cannot hope, in the normal course of events, to pay their way."

An Election Issue

THE COUNCIL declares that it is confident that no British Government, of whatever political colour, can possibly fail to recognise "the shipping industry's vital contribution to the maintenance of the wellbeing of the Commonwealth countries, and, indeed, to the very existence of our island nation." The Council accordingly hopes, with the utmost sincerity, that steps will always be taken, and in good time, to ensure the provision of that efficient modern shipping "without which Britain cannot hope to maintain the place she has established in the world." We wish we could share the confidence of the Council as to the present Govern-

ment taking any interest in merchant shipping. The Minister of Transport is not in the Cabinet, and those Ministers who are in it appear not to care what happens to it. It will not be a political issue at the General Election. Unless something is done, the electors will not give a thought to the maintenance of efficient fleets, for most of them do not realise that they live on an island and that, without ships to bring in food and raw materials and carry away the export of goods, they would starve. Whether it would be practicable for the various organisations representing owners, officers and men, to issue a joint manifesto before the appeal to the electorate occurs is a matter which might perhaps be considered.

An Example of Cooperation

AT A TIME when several of the authorities controlling the nationalised industries are engaged in controversies with their employers over wages and other subjects, it might be profitable to remind voters that in at least one private industry, that of shipping, all differences are discussed in a friendly atmosphere, all concerned realising that, in the ultimate issue, their interests are one and the same. Consequently, on all the broader issues, they cooperate with goodwill for the purposes of common protection against subversive influences or Government neglect. Owners, officers and men cannot be unconscious that the whole community is dependent on their joint efforts. They recognise that without ships of the highest quality in design and equipment, employment would decline, especially in face of the flag discrimination which is practised by some nations. who are concerned with British shipping recognise their responsibility to their fellow countrymen. If they joined in making a joint declaration, Ministers and politicians generally could not fail to be impressed. That they could agree as to the steps which should be taken to enable the industry to hold its own on the trade routes is open to little doubt. Neither owners, officers or men want to be spoonfed by the State. Subsidies in any shape or form are anathema to seafarers of our race; they desire merely justice. If the new Government they desire merely justice. If the new Government would restore the initial allowances and grant some relief of taxation, the situation would be eased. Should those measures prove inadequate, after a reasonable period of trial, other expedients might be considered. But it would be no slight gain if all the various in-terests joined in presenting a united front before the next General Election.

A Sound Policy

SIR ERNEST MURRANT, in addressing the annual meeting of Manchester Liners, Ltd., made a further protest against a policy which is robbing the shipping industry of the money which should be devoted to building new ships in place of old and thus promoting employment in the wide range of maritime industries employing about one million workers. The burden which shipping is bearing was well illustrated by his statement that, in the case of this fleet, of the available surplus the Government will eventually require by way of taxation 57.84 per cent, and of the remainder 36.11 per cent is being retained in the business; 3.38 per cent represents the portion allotted to the ordinary shareholders and 2.67 per cent takes care of the preference share dividend, directors' emoluments, etc. It will be seen that the suggestion that dividends have any appreciable effect on inflation is completely exposed. Sir Ernest once more urged the desirability of retaining in their business a substantial portion of the net earnings. In the postwar years, he pointed out, they had retained a great deal more than the shareholders had received by way of dividends. "The soundness of that policy by way of dividends. "The soundness of that policy is evidenced by the fact that we have been able to maintain our fleet both in a high state of efficiency and in volume, in spite of the tremendous increase in shipbuilding costs." Shipowners generally can claim that, in spite of all temptations to the contrary, they have played the game, with the result that after six years of State interference with the industry, the country still holds its place on the seas. What its future will be depends on many uncertain factors, which the coming General Election doubtless will expose more clearly. The efficiency of shipping, the relations between owners and seafarers, is an example of the success of private enterprise at a time when the national boards are quarrelling with their employees.

An Expanding Programme

THE Powell Duffryn group is now engaged in an endeavour to replace the earning capacity lost when the company's coal properties, the adjusted book value of which is £19,540,000 gross or £12,594,000 after deduction of reserves, vested in the National Coal Board. The task is being tackled with great skill and energy, but it will be costly, and some time must elapse before it is fully productive of profit. There seems every likelihood that the various expansion programmes the group has in hand or in project will, for a while, be financed from internal resources. These programmes include the construction of an oil refinery in partnership with the American Socony-Vacuum Oil Company, extension of oil marketing, additions to the Stephenson Clarke fleet of ships, development of overseas coalfields and the manufacture of carbon. Towards the huge and the manufacture of carron. Towards the long capital outlay that will be necessary the company has received—and has sold—£10,000,000 of coal stock on account of compensation. Despite heavy expenditure, therefore, the liquid position remains sound, the end-March current assets including £2,452,000 in cash and £2,080,000 in quoted investments. Capital commitments were then £1,120,000. In comment on the year's results and on prospects the chairman, Sir Herbert Merrett, stresses that, for a period, certain investments will yield no income, while development losses will have to be met. A moderate distribution policy and a building up of the group carry forward (£2,295,000 at March 31 last) are therefore essential. But it may not be neces-It may, says Sir Herbert, sary to draw on the reserve. remain intact, though it will be drawn on to maintain reasonable dividend payments if current earnings are insufficient for the purpose. In any event, new and substantial income is expected to flow in from 1953 onwards. Proposals are in train to increase the company's authorised capital, but the directors have not the intention or the need for the present time to issue any part of this additional capital. Further compensation payments will, of course, accrue to the group, but in this connection Sir Herbert is obliged to comment that the clearing up stage of compensation for the mines and ancillaries is proceeding at a snail's pace. The company's ordinary units, the dividend on which is 8 per cent, are essentially a long-term investment and have great possibilities.

Priority for Lakes Grain

THE heavy grain crop has caused the Canadian Government to take the unusual step of invoking the Emergency Powers Act to establish priority control over bulk cargoes on the Great Lakes. Contracts for the movement of ore, coal, pulp and stone were made in movement of ore, coal, pulp and stone were made in the usual way earlier in the year, and vessels were allocated to those trades to complete their contracts before the onset of winter. Now, however, the large stocks of grain at the Lake terminals and in railway wagons on route have presented difficulties and threaten a hold-up, and the problem was examined by a committee of shippers, shipowners and the railways. reports of this committee were studied by the Minister of Transport, who found it advisable to create the office of Transport Controller, with power to determine the priority of movement to be given to grain over any other bulk commodity. The control over transport facilities includes railways, Canadian registered ships of 1,000 tons gross and over, and storage. The Transport Controller can, accordingly, direct shipowners to abandon their contracts and undertake voyages with grain, and the regulations expressly protect shipowners

from the consequences of failure to carry out obligations under existing charters, when that failure is due to compliance with an order made under the regulations. The powers, as may be expected, are sweeping and, like all similar Government regulations in modern times, if long continued, might easily disrupt the normal commercial conduct of business and ship operation on the Great Lakes.

Convective and Radiant Heating in Ships

As part of the programme of the British Shipbuilding Research Association dealing with the ventilation of passenger and crew accommodation, a paper entitled Comparisons of Convective and Radiant Methods of leating" has been prepared by Dr. T. Bedford, of the Heating Medical Research Council's hygiene research unit, and Dr. M. Fishenden, of the mechanical engineering department of the City and Guilds College. This paper, given in Report No. 56, has now been published by the B.S.R.A., and is intended to be used as a basis on which more detailed consideration of the problems of ship compartments can be undertaken. The importance of adequate air movement has often been stressed. Its beneficial effects are greater in summer than in winter; and in artificially heated rooms speeds of the order of 20 or 30 ft. per min. are desirable. Humidity has little influence on sensations of warmth at optimum temperatures, but there is evidence that it may have a distinct influence on comfort. It appears that the relative humidity of the air should certainly not exceed 70 per cent and should preferably be much lower than this. In ships at sea artificial humidification of the air is never likely to be desirable. Most people in ordinary indoor clothing feel comfortably warm, say, when sitting, reading or talking, if the temperatures of air and surroundings are uniformly at about 66 deg. F., but actual tests indicate that, for the same equivalent temperature, the environment feels more pleasant when the walls are above 66 deg. F., and the air below 66 deg. F.

Sound Advice

Some methods of warming produce steep temperature gradients, the air at head level being much warmer than that near the floor. Such gradients are highly undesirable and may promote acute discomfort. Experimental evidence on this aspect of the problem is discussed in the paper and shows that, generally speaking, the temperature difference from foot to head level is much less for radiant than for convective heating. This is an additional advantage in favour of radiant methods. When rooms are warmed solely by the circulation of warm air, the inlet temperatures are often as high as 130 deg. F. or more. The hot air then tends to rise to and remain at the higher levels in the room, thus setting up undesirable gradients of temperature. If a given amount of heat must be delivered via the ventilating air, a large volume of air should be handled so that the temperature can be kept as low as possible. It is usually better to deliver air at the temperature which it is desired to maintain, and to compensate for losses through the structure by providing subsidiary sources of radiant heat.

SAYINGS OF THE WEEK

BRITAIN'S BAD EXAMPLE

"Is it any wonder foreign Governments are endeavouring to follow the footsteps of the British Government and think, of course; they also can break legally binding long-term contracts by Act of Parliament?"—Mr. Theodore Instone, chairman of S. Instone & Co., Ltd.

THE BURDEN OF TAXATION

"There can be no question that present taxation is such as to be a strong deterrent to initiative and enterprise in every sphere, while profligate Government expenditure, much of it proved to have been for no useful purpose whatever, continues at an appalling rate."—Mr. O. J. Philipson, chairman of Richardsons, Westgarth & Co., Ltd.

ON THE "BALTIC"

INCREASED ACTIVITY IN THE PACIFIC

By BALTRADER

Considerable recent activity in the North Pacific market came at an opportune time both for owners and charterers. The latter were able to draw on a sood supply of tonnage from Japan and Australia; their inquiries have been of assistance to owners whose vessels were becoming difficult to charter when discharged on the western or southern sides of the Pacific. The increased chartering for grain and lumber from the North Pacific has, therefore, been arranged without the usual advance in rates, although these have been satisfactory to owners. The position now seems likely to become more difficult for the North Pacific charterers, as the supply of unfixed vessels in the Pacific basin is becoming rather short.

Small Increase in Far East Rates

In the Far East, although, as already mentioned, inquiry is less than it has been for some time, so many vessels have been sent away in ballast that the odd cargo available has had to pay a small premium over rates lately accepted for October loading. An instance is the fixing of a vessel by the Baltic Chartering Committee for grain from North China to India at 125s., or 2s. 6d. more than last paid by them. For some time, the inquiry for tonnage to load in North China has been small, probably owing to floods in the interior. It has been confined to a few cargoes of grain for India, employment which is generally less in favour than the voyage with grain, soya beans or soya bean products to Europe. Cement cargoes from Japan to Australia have been few of late; these were found useful by owners whose ships were discharged in Japan and who were not willing to load in North China. Freights obtainable between Eastern and Far Eastern ports are beginning to be picked up by Japanese ships to an increasing extent. The operation of Japanese ships is extending farther afield, as exemplified by recent fixtures of vessels of that Flag with coal from South Africa to India and the Red Sea.

While it is at present understood that coal will not be imported this year from North America to the United Kingdom, it has been announced that some coal will be imported by the National Coal Board from within the sterling area. That pointed to shipment from South Africa or India as the most likely sources; but South Africa has not yet recovered full control of its inland transport facilities, which went adrift under stress of competing demand for home and export use. Prior claims of Pakistan, Indian Ocean, Red Sea and other importing areas may be an obstacle to the import of South African coal by Great Britain, but for Indian coal inquiry began last week for tonnage from Calcutta to the U.K. It must be hoped that we shall not be under the necessity of heavily supplementing our own good coal with rather inferior supplies from so distant a source.

North Atlantic Coal Trade

The rate for coal from Hampton Roads to Antwerp or Rotterdam has apparently settled down to a steady \$10.50, which for early loading is a definite fall of two dollars or more in comparison with rates obtainable a few weeks ago. It is not, however, by any means a bad rate, especially in the many cases in which "Warshipvoy" charter, or freedom from dispatch money, has been agreed. It is satisfactory to owners to see business arranged at that figure for consecutive voyages which will occupy about 12 months. There are already many vessels chartered for varying numbers of consecutive trans-Atlantic voyages with coal; the extent of fresh inquiry is thereby reduced, but a corresponding volume of tonnage will be out of the

market for a fairly long period. During the past week or two, the generous harvests in North America have brought grain cargoes to the fore. A satisfactory number of vessels have been chartered from the St. Lawrence and the Gulf of Mexico to the near Continent, United Kingdom, Eire, the Mediterranean and Brazil. The purchase of 1,000,000 tons of Russian grain by the United Kingdom will call for numerous ships in a quarter where tonnage is searce.

It is not surprising that the liner companies are paying good rates for the time charter of vessels to carry Europe's manufactures to Africa, Australia and the Far East. Particularly high rates have been granted lately for the trip to Indochina, unfortunately with supplies needed to maintain a wasting warfare.

The Freight Market

A large number of vessels has been chartered for coal and grain from North America in the past week. Among others similarly chartered, the Socrates, 9,000 tons, is fixed for coal from Hampton Roads to Rotter-dam at \$10.50, October 1/15, on "Warshipvoy" terms, including dispatch money, and the Spiga, 9,000 tons, will make consecutive voyages right up to June 1952 from Hampton Roads to Holland or Belgium at \$10.50, beginning December/January. The Leonidas Michalos is fixed, Hampton Roads to Genoa, Savona or Spezzia, at \$12.75, free discharge, October 10/25. Recent fixtures for grain include Anna N. Goulandris, 6,500 tons, St. Lawrence to Eire, 25s. per quarter, heavy grain, 9d. extra if two ports discharge, October 23/ November 12; Huntsmore, 45,000 quarters, St. Lawrence to U.K./Continent, heavy grain, 22s. 6d. per quarter, October 27/November 20; Africana, 8,000-8,400 tons, St. Lawrence to Algeria, 120s. wheat, October 20/ November 12; and Sea Leader, 9,000 tons, St. Lawrence to Rio de Janeiro, \$18.50, heavy grain, October. The Pentire, 42,000 quarters, October/November, and a Chapman vessel, 39,000 quarters, November/December, are chartered from Gulf to U.K./Continent at 27s. 6d. Chapman verse from Gulf to U.K./Continent at 278. on, per quarter, heavy grain. The Belpareil has been taken for lumber, 3,100 standards at £31 per standard, f.i.o., North Pacific to U.K., November/December-very good 6,000 tons, has accepted 100s. Maritius to U.K., bagged sugar. October 29/November 24, and Cape Wrath, 7,300 tons, is similarly fixed at 100s., November/December. This rate is half-a-crown down. A notable fixture is Calcutta to the United Kingdom, 9,500 tons coal at 110s., option Antwerp or Rotterdam, 105s., October 12/31—not a very good rate after Indian income tax is deducted. The Lord Lloyd George, open one has is deducted. The Lora Logia George, 9,000 tons, is fixed, Antwerp to Japan, potash, at \$23, October. Australia and the East are quiet, as also is the River Plate. The champlain, 10,350 tons d.w., 10½ knots on 25 tons oil, is chartered for a Far Eastern round, delivery off Lands End, at the high rate of 52s. 6d. per morth, including Dairen and North China, redelivery U.K./Continent, Gdynia or Gdansk.

Air Charter Business

Inquiry for aircraft on charter terms has been quite good in the last week, but brokers continue to find it difficult to fill all their orders, especially for large planes. They report a generally expanding interest in air charter for goods and passengers. They wonder how the demand is going to be met in the coming years as the operators' existing machines become past service. No doubt the scheduled airlines will partly solve the difficulty by disposing of their older planes when they replace with new types.

MANCHESTER LINERS, LIMITED

TRADING PROFIT INCREASED : BUILDING PROGRAMME GOING AHEAD

Sir Ernest H. Murrant on the Prospects

The fifty-third annual general meeting of Manchester Liners, Ltd., was held on Wednesday, September 19, at the registered offices of the company, St. Ann's Square, Manchester, the chairman, Sir Ernest H. Murrant, K.C.M.G., M.B.E., presiding.

The chairman said:

Ladies and Gentlemen,—You may recollect at our annual general meeting last year I informed you of the Board's intention to call a special meeting of shareholders for the purpose of adopting a new set of Articles of Association, and at the same time I indicated our desire to elect Mr. Robert B. Stoker to a seat on the Board. Accordingly a special meeting was summoned on June 20, 1951, a modern set of Articles of Association was adopted and at a subsequent board meeting Mr. Robert Stoker was appointed a director. I feel sure that the welcome he has already received from his colleagues will be endorsed by shareholders when his re-election comes forward for your approval later in these proceedings.

Eminently Satisfactory Position

I think all the formalities governing this meeting have been complied with. The register of directors' interests is on the table; the notice convening the meeting and the auditors' report to the members have been read, and the directors' report and statement of accounts have been in your hands for the requisite period. I suggest therefore, with your concurrence, that the report and accounts be taken as read. They disclose a position which members cannot but consider as eminently satisfactory.

The company's capital remains unchanged, but, subject to your approval, certain reserves have been strengthened; £125,000 has been added to fleet replacement account, bringing this item up to £834,655—a figure which is still short of the cost of recently ordered additions to our fleet, which, Note 3 on the other side of the balance sheet points out, amount to £982,600, and to which I will refer later.

The general reserve has been strengthened by the addition of £100,000 and now amounts to £450,000. There is also a new reserve item, namely, taxation equalisation account, to which £121,267 have been allocated, representing a provision for the deferred taxation liability on initial wear and tear allowances received in respect of new tonnage.

Allocation to Staff Pension Fund

Liabilities and provisions, £1,126,521, vary little from last year, but include an allocation of £25,000 to staff pension fund. Subject to your approval this amount will be transferred to trustees and added to the sum previously provided (i.e., £50,000 in 1948). In existing circumstances your directors feel that the opportunity afforded by a good year's trading should be used to this comparatively small extent to strengthen this fund in order that there may be a reasonable chance that no case of real hardship need be suffered in the years to come by any regular members of our staff or their dependants who would not otherwise be adequately provided for by our superannuation arrangements. It is our belief that this proposal will receive your very willing acquiescence.

On the other side of the balance sheet, fixed assets at cost, less depreciation, stand at £928,478, compared with £494,540 a year ago. This item covers the company's nine vessels including the balance of instalments



Sir Ernest H. Murrant, K. C. M. G., M. B. E., chairman of Manchester Liners, Ltd.

on the last new ship, Manchester Merchant, which is now in commission and giving satisfactory service. In addition it includes a payment on account of the further new turbine vessel to which I referred in my remarks last year, delivery of which is expected in time for the next St. Lawrence season, and which will be named Manchester Spinner. This vessel is being built by Messrs. Cammell Laird & Co., Ltd., of Birkenhead, is 8,900 tons deadweight and will have the usual comfortable cabin class accommodation for twelve passengers.

Liquid assets are very much in line with last year and call for little comment, except perhaps to note that the market value of the investments is in excess of the book value, a satisfactory state of affairs in view of the heavy depreciation suffered by our holdings

of Government securities.

The profit and loss account shows profit from trading £634,397, compared with last year's figure £461,210, an addition of £173,387—a worthwhile reflection of the increasing tempo of the export drive—to which is added income from investments, giving us £692,335 to deal with. Taxation takes £279,181, and deferred taxation (the previously mentioned item meantime transferred to taxation equalisation account) a further £121,267.

"Sharing a Pie"

After bringing in the balance from the last account, making the allocations previously mentioned, and paying the half-yearly dividend on the preference shares, the directors recommend a dividend of 10 per cent, less income tax, on the ordinary shares, which will absorb £23,373, leaving a balance to be carried forward to next year's account of £47,853.

It is of interest to note that of the available surplus the Government will eventually require by way of taxation 57.84 per cent and of the remainder 36.11 per cent is being retained in the business; 3.38 per cent represents the portion allotted to the ordinary shareholders and 2.67 per cent takes care of the preference share dividend, directors' emoluments, etc.

In view of these figures, I make no apology for recalling what seems to be a very appropriate verse

from Alice in Wonderland:

I bassed by his garden and marked with one eye How an Owl and a Panther were sharing a Pic. The Panther took bic crust, and gravy and meat While the Owl had the dish as its share of the treat.

I have, on many occasions, referred to the desirability of retaining in the business a substantial portion of our net earnings, and indeed in the postwar years we have retained a great deal more than the shareholders have received by way of dividends. The soundness of that policy is evidenced by the fact that we have been able to maintain our fleet, both in a high state of efficiency and in volume in spite of the tremendous increase in shipbuilding costs. Our policy has also accorded with the national interest, and has been in line with the long term interest of shareholders inasmuch as our first duty is to maintain our capital assets and while so doing to secure a sound foundation on which the company's business could safely rest in good times and bad.

We have loyally played our part in endeavouring to avoid anything which could even remetely be considered to be inflationary: we have borne, along with all other industries, the heaviest kind of taxation, and we have seen costs of every description rapidly mounting up all round us. Still we have held to our policy as, fundamentally, I am certain it has been a right policy, but one cannot help wondering why, in such circumstances, the holders of equity shares which bear all the risks of enterprise, should be made the object, and practically the sole object, of an unprecedented attack for daring to make profits. Manchester Liners have been more than fifty years in business.

The Board, and I am sure the shareholders as well, onsider we have done a pretty good job in providing Manchester importers and exporters with a regular and fast service of powerful and modern steamers; had we squandered our substance at any time during the past fifty years we would rightly have laid curselves open to criticism, but I entirely fail to see the justice either of the Chancellor's recent attack on profits or of the White Paper published on July 27 which purports to restrict dividends which we are permitted to distribute. I will not aggravate the feeling of shareholders by saying that in the present good year we might have felt justified in recommending a moderate increase in our ordinary share dividend, but there is a vast difference between adopting a sound and moderate policy in one's own business and being obliged by unconstitutional methods to deprive shareholders of the ultimate benefits of that policy. Possibly the directions em-bodied in the White Paper will never receive legislative sanction, but in the meantime the position is as farcical as the attitude of the Queen of Hearts in demanding "Sentence first and verdict afterwards."

New Great Lakes Service

I have already referred to our commitments for new tonnage and mentioned the Manchester Spinner, now building at Cammell Laird's, Birkenhead. While on this subject it would seem an appropriate moment to tell you that having regard to the insistent demand on the part of many Canadian and American importers and exporters for direct services to and from the Great Lakes Ports, your directors have felt the time has arrived when British shipowners should provide regular sailings, and I am of the opinion it is of the utmost importance that these requirements be met by the old-established Canadian and North Atlantic Freight Conferences, of which we are one of the oldest member lines.

In these days of ever increasing costs it is natural that merchants should wish to avail themselves of the cheapest form of transport to and from interior points in Canada and the United States, and reduce the handling of their goods to an absolute minimum; to a limited extent this can undoubtedly be achieved by the provision of direct services between the United Kingdom and the Great Lakes ports.

After considerable thought we have decided partially to undertake this responsibility by the provision of new tonnage suitable for the North Atlantic crossing but of a smaller type than our present fleet to permit navigation through the canals connecting the Great Lakes with the St. Lawrence. At the outset it is our intention to provide monthly sailings during the open water season between Manchester and Canadian Lake ports, such as Toronto. Orders have accordingly been placed with Messrs. Cammell Laird & Co., Ltd., for the first two ships for this service, to be delivered in March and April 1952, and they will be appropriately named Manchester Pioneer and Manchester Explorer.

I have no doubt you will agree that while maintaining and improving our present services to and from the Canadian and North Atlantic states ports it is eminently desirable that we keep pace with modern trends, and from time to time no doubt we will find it necessary to augment the new service with additional tonnage. Our predominant thought is to make the Lakes service available to the Port of Manchester and particularly to our many friends, both exporters and importers, whom it has been our privilege to serve for over half a century.

Forward Policy

It has also been decided, in view of the long delay owners have lately experienced in obtaining a berth for the building of new tonnage, to place an order for a further ship for our main Montreal service: in this case the carliest date on which we may expect delivery is February 1955. As this vessel, however, was ordered after the close of our financial year her basic cost is not included in the commitments amounting to £982,600 for new tonnage on which I have previously commented.

commented.

We feel sure our forward policy in regard to new tonnage will meet with shareholders' unqualified approval. We possess a first-class fleet, but ships are quickly-wasting assets; if we were to wait for a downward tendency in prices we might well find ourselves operating vessels inferior to our competitors. As it is, we try to give an up-to-date, regular and reliable service, and I should like to take this opportunity of thanking importers, exporters and passengers for their loyal and valued support.

Losses Through Strike

In reviewing the year's activities one cannot fail to mention the regrettable strike which took place in the Manchester Docks in March/April last, extending over a period of some six weeks and causing substantial losses to shipowners, the Manchester Ship Canal Company, and the dockers themselves, as well as dislocation of traffic which resulted in much cargo being diverted to other ports, some of it possibly never to return. As the Ministry of Labour is understood to be engaged on a fact finding inquiry into the causes of the dispute the matter must meanwhile be regarded as sub judice, and I will therefore refrain from any further comment, except to say how regrettable it is that the machinery which already exists to deal with such matters was not taken advantage of and put into immediate operation.

We entrust our ships and cargoes in Manchester to the experienced hands of the Manchester Ship Canal Company, and our reputation for careful handling and lack of pilferage shows how capable they are and what efficient service we receive. To them our best thanks

We are fortunate also in our staffs, afloat and ashore; they take a keen and personal interest in maintaining and increasing the reputation, efficiency and fortunes of your company. I am pleased that this opportunity comes once a year to acknowledge their admirable work on our behalf.

Ladies and gentlemen, I now have pleasure in proposing that the report of the directors, together with the statement of the company's accounts as at June 30, 1951, duly audited, be approved and adopted, and that a dividend of 10 per cent, less income tax, for the year ended the same date, on the ordinary share capital of the company, be declared. I will ask Sir Frederick West if he will be good enough to second this resolution.

resolution.

Sir Frederick West seconded, and the report and accounts were adopted.

Coasting Tramp Freight Rates

The current percentage surcharges on coasting tramp freight rates have been increased as from September 24 by varying amounts up to 15 points. A revised demurrage scale has also been brought into operation. The Ministry of Transport has agreed the adjustment for Government-sponsored cargoes.

NORWEGIAN SHIPPING AND SHIPBUILDING

THE EARNINGS OF SHIPPING : MORE NEW CONTRACTS

By THE SHIPPING WORLD'S Own Correspondent

NORWAY'S balance of payments for the first six months of 1951 shows great improvement. Compared with the first half of 1950, the deficit has been reduced from Kr. 685 mn. to Kr. 90 mn. The remarkable thing about these figures, however, is their reflection of the growth in shipping earnings. Net freight earnings in the first six months of 1950 amounted to Kr. 511 mn, and for first half of the current year to Kr. 860 mn. In addition, money spent on new ships from abroad declined from Kr. 544 mn. in 1950 to Kr. 424 mn. this year, and Norwegians sold secondhand vessels abroad for Kr. 139 mn. during the first half of 1951, compared with only Kr. 44 mn. during the first half of 1950. In short, shipping as a whole contributed to the balance of payments with as much as Kr. 575 mn. net during the first six months of the current year, against Kr. 14 mn, net in the first half of 1950. And the favourable trend of foreign payments seems to continue. Only days ago the latest figures for the balance with the European Payments Union was published, according to which Norway had had a surplus of some \$3.7 mn. in dealings with the Union during August. In July and May there were small deficits of 0.1 and 0.2 mn., while in June there was a surplus of about \$2,000,000

The authorities have explained that this favourable state of affairs is of a preliminary nature, and as soon as the heavy commitments in connection with rearmament begin to tell on the home economy, the trade balance will grow more unfavourable. This is evidently true, but just the same it is maintained that the apparently strong financial position at present must lead to more freeing of trade in the near future; and although it is said that textiles will be the next group of finished articles that will see the benefit of such a move, it is hoped that shipping will also receive its share.

Orders for Abroad

Quite a few contracts have been concluded lately between Norwegian owners and foreign yards, and not always have the conditions regarding currency regulations been fulfilled. In other words, the authorities are becoming more and more lenient, which is evidenced by the fact that during July four new contracts with foreign yards were reported, two, a tanker and a cargo liner, from Swedish yards, a cargo liner from a German yard and a tanker of 18,000 tons d.w. from a British yard; while in August six more contracts were reported concluded with foreign yards. Two of these were for tankers of some 18,000 tons d.w. and two for handy-sized cargo vessels ordered from British yards, while the rest were also for handy-sized cargo vessels from Swedish yards. Reports received in September mention three more contracts, all from foreign yards. In addition some contracts have been concluded but have as yet not been published, and several are being negotiated.

Recently a committee appointed by all the seamen's and officers' organisations, as well as the shipowners' representatives, submitted a report on victualling on board Norwegian ships. The Committee consisted of three doctors, all dieticians, and with Dr. Evang, Health Director in Norway, as chairman, the other members were a representative for the masters' oganisation, one from the officers' and one from the engineers' organisations, as well as two representatives from the Seamen's Union and two from the shipowners. Despite this varied representation, the report was unanimous. It calls attention to the fact that the present food on board ships is far too rich and leads to bad health and declining efficiency on the part of the seamen. Attached to the report is a six-weeks menu which gives a list of

more varied, but at the same time more beneficial food, and emphasises the use of fruit and vegetables. The report points out that a new system must be introduced not by Government regulations but by voluntary agreement on the part of all seamen. It is hoped in this way to bring about a much better victualling list at sea, and although it is not expected that economies would result immediately, it is realised that better health among the seamen will raise efficiency and create a better atmosphere which will induce the men to stay on board the same ship for a longer time.

The Northern Shipowners' Association recently held its annual general meeting. According to the report the Association now comprises members owning more than 1.325 vessels of a total 5,900,000 tons gross, the largest tonnage in the history of the Association. Mr. Kaare Schöning was re-elected chairman and the place of Mr. Fr. Odfjell, who died last year, his son, Mr. B. Odfjell, was elected as a member of the board.

Lifesaving Rafts

Recently there has been much discussion with regard to lifeboats and lifesaving equipment on board ships, occasioned by the disaster when the motor vessel Bess sank in the North Sea on her voyage from Antwerp to Mandal with a cargo of steel wire and sand. The vessel developed a heavy list and the only lifeboat that could be launched was smashed against the ship's railing. Altogether 23 crew and passengers lost their lives, while only nine were saved. They were all taken up from a raft after having drifted in stormy weather for about 20 hours. Shortly afterwards the authorities, in conjunction with seamen's organisations and shipowners' representatives, issued a regulation reintro-ducing rafts on all Norwegian ships. Such rafts were to be found on all vessels during the war, but were to some extent taken ashore when the war ended. It was, however, such a wartime raft that saved the nine survivors from the Bess. Although the regulation was unanimous, the kind of rafts and to a lesser extent their suitability has been questioned. The authorities agreed to recommend rafts with the floating agency, a big tube built in a rectangle round a wooden deck, made of aluminium. The tube is divided into several airof aluminium. The tube is divided into several and tight sections. These rafts are light and have good the sea is small, bouyancy, but the protection from the sea is small, a piece of canvas some 30 inches wide round the outer side of the tube being all that there is between the men on the float and the sea. Research is, however, going on to find a better type.

The Steel Situation

Overshadowing all else in connection with Norwegian shipbuilding has been the difficult steel situation. A three-man committee with Mr. Wilhelmsen, managing director of Fredriksstad mek. Verksted, as chairman, has been dealing with the many problems, and Mr. Wilhelmsen himself has been travelling in both Europe and the United States, but without much success. In trade agreements with other countries Norwegian Government officials have tried to exchange Norwegian goods in short demand for steel, in particular steel plating for shipbuilding. A recently concluded agreement with Belgium constituted the first step forward, as some steel was obtained from that country, but not so much in exchange for valuable Norwegian goods as in return for a Norwegian promise to buy more luxury goods that the Belgians want to sell. Although the Belgians were cooperative, the steel situation will hardly ease for Norwegian yards until the steel plant in Northern Norway starts production, but as that is still

at least two years hence, many difficulties will have to be overcome before then.

In the meantime yards are booking orders for large and handy-sized ships. Frederiksstad mek. Verksted for instance, have some 20 ships on the order book. Two ships are for tankers of 13,500 tons d.w., of which one was scheduled to be delivered on September 27. At Marinens Hovedverft, Horten, altogether seven contracts have been placed, three for motor cargo liners, all ordered by Haugesund owners, and four for tankers of some 16,000 to 24,000 tons d.w. The two first cargo liners, one of which will soon be launched, are to be equipped with M.A.N. diesels, while the rest will all be equipped with M.A.N. diesels, while the rest will all be equipped with M.A.N. diesels, while the rest will all be equipped with M.A.N. diesels, while the rest will all be equipped with Mroten-Doxford engines built under licence. The main engine for the 24,000-tonner will, as far as is known, be the largest to be built in Norway. The engines for the large tankers of some 31,000 tons d.w. to be built by Rosenberg, Stavanger, will be supplied by Burmeister & Wain, Copenhagen.

At Bergens mek. Verksteder as well the production of engines has made great progress, but in this case smaller units only are produced, generally motors of some 300 h.p. for use as auxiliaries or geared together on one shaft making aggregates of 1,200 h.p. The tanker Majorian, recently delivered to Mr. Hilmar Reksten, Bergen, was equipped with auxiliaries from Bergens mek. Verksteder and the yard has had many inquiries from foreign buyers who want the engines for boats or for stationary electric plant.

Few cargo vessels have been launched or delivered by Norwegian yards during the summer months, and the holiday season is not the only cause of this state of affairs. At many yards whalecatchers have been launched and some are already handed over to their owners. At others repairs on the whaling fleet have taken much of the time. Frammes Mek. Værksted, for instance, has docked as many as 30 catchers, which is a larger number than usual, but the fact that the whaling fleet arrived earlier than in former years accounts for this. As the coming season will not start until January 2, more time is available, although it is expected that quite a few expeditions will leave in order to catch sperm whales before the season starts.

Kaldnes Mek. Verksted recently laid the keel of its first 18,000-tons tanker. Only part of the keel could be laid as the slip-way has not yet been completed, and is not expected to be ready until next spring. In the meantime work will proceed on the forepart of the vessel, and as soon as the whole way has been completed the frame and plating work on the after part will be begun. Towards the end of the year the yard expects to launch the second of two cargo liners of 8,000 tons d.w. ordered by Wilh. Wilhelmsen. She will be the last of the dry-cargo ships ordered for the time being at least, as all the other four contracts are for tankers of some 18,000 tons d.w.

SWEDISH SHIPPING AND SHIPBUILDING

IRON ORE SHIPMENTS AND PORT DEVELOPMENTS

By THE SHIPPING WORLD'S Own Correspondent

The scrap iron shortage is considered to be the most acute problem of the moment in Sweden. The total requirements of scrap iron from abroad are estimated to be about 190,000 tons per year, but whereas the agreement with Western Germany stipulated an import to Sweden of 100,000 tons, only 12,000 tons were exported to Sweden from Germany during July and August. Consequently it may be necessary to cut down the export of iron ore—Sweden's most important barter commodity—which will further mean more difficulties for the import of badly needed coke.

At the beginning of this year the Swedish Shipowners' Association, at the request of the Fuel Board, agreed to transport 600,000 tons of coal from the U.S.A. to Sweden. These shipments are still being continued at rates considerably lower than the normal. Recently the Fuel Board asked for further assistance with an additional 150,000 tons. The Swedish Shipowners' Association is willing to transport the extra supply, provided higher rates can be agreed on.

South Atlantic Lines, Inc., the majority shareholding of which is in the hands of Swedish American Line, has sold the motorship Halia, formerly Kungsholm, to the Mediterranean Lines, Inc. The manager of the latter company, Consul Eug. Eugenides, was also the buyer of the steamship Brasil (ex.Drottningholm), which is now sailing regularly between Hamburg and North America under the new name Homeland. With these two sales the interest of the Swedish America Line in South Atlantic Lines, Inc., is wound up, and South Atlantic Lines is liquidated. South Atlantic Lines, Inc., Panama, has a share capital of 1.3 million dollars, of which 55 per cent (\$715,000) belongs to the Swedish America Line. The par value of these shares today is 3.7 million Swedish kronor.

The shipment of iron ore via Lulea is very brisk, with unloading and loading being continued all night. About 35,000 tons of iron ore are exported every 24 hours. However, it will still be difficult to complete the shipment programme owing to the fact that shipowners held their vessels back, probably expecting higher rates later on during May and June. The shipments

are now reaching 1.8 million tons and a yearly figure of 3.5 million tons is assumed. The frequency of the iron ore trains has been increased to nine per day and night, which is a peak figure. A further increase would require dredging of the port at the iron ore quay, as well as at the entrance.

Three of the most important customers of the port of Gävle, Bergslaget, Sandvikens Jernverk and Hoforsbruk, have submitted a petition to the Harbour Board stressing the necessity of developments. The Bergslaget concern draws attention to the almost doubled capacity of the Domnarfvets Iron Works in the near future, requiring a doubled import of fuel from 250,000 tons to 450,000 tons a year. When the improvements at the Sandviken Jernverk are completed this will result in a 40 per cent increase of production capacity, followed by a corresponding increase of the import and export activities. The first stage of the development scheme envisaged for the port of Gävle will cost 11.5 million kronor.

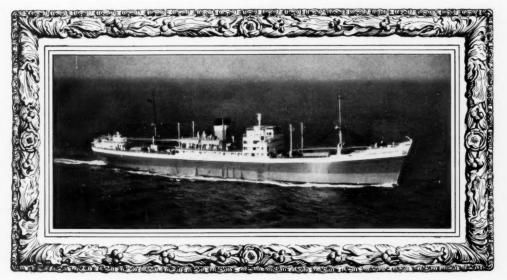
More Port Development

The development works at the port of Oxelösund, at a cost of Kr. 750,000, are now completed. With a new quay 540 ft, in length and three level-luffing cranes, the capacity of the port has increased considerably. At Hälsingborg the traffic increase makes another train-ferry terminal necessary, as petitioned by the Harbour Board. The cost is estimated at Kr. 1,237,000 and the work could be completed in 1953.

Representatives of the Stockholms Rederi A/B Svea, Finska Angfartygs A/B, Helsingfors, and Angfartygs A/B Bore, of Abo, recently met at Abo, where the passenger services during the Olympic Games were scheduled as follows: Three daily services between Stockholm and Finland and vice versa during July 9-August 9, 1952 (two services to Abo and one to Helsingfors). According to the Olympic timetable laid down there will thus be 21 weekly services in both directions.

there will thus be 21 weekly services in both directions. The Government loan of 5 million kronor granted to the Uddevalla yard in 1949 by the Commerce and Shipping Fund and the Swedish Credit Bank has now been





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redeemed. Shipowner Gustaf Thordén states that the financial basis of the yard is fully consolidated and actual orders on hand from Swedish, Norwegian, Danish and Brazilian shipowners guarantee work until the middle of 1955. Among others, a turbine-driven tanker of 32,000 tons will be built for Thordén Lines.

The Karlsro yard at Norrköping recently delivered a tug for Poland and the third of the six motor tankers ordered by Soviet Russia. The latter vessel is of 1,275 tons, a 6-cyl. Swedish motor of 900 h.p. giving the ship a speed of 11 knots. The Norwegian sealing vessel Polsirkeln, owned by Mr. Astrup Holm, Tromsö, is undergoing reconversion at the Falkenberg yard. New cabins and blubber tanks will be installed, while the existing engines will be replaced by a M.A.N. diesel of 1,200 i.h.p. The total cost of the reconversion is estimated at Kr.650,000. In January the vessel proceeds to Newfoundland for seal hunting. The Polsirkeln is of 650 tons and was originally built as a steamer at Abo in 1942 for Russia. Later she was taken by the Germans to Norway, where the vessel was seized by the Royal Navy.

Swedish Lloyd Orders for Germany

Details of the two vessels ordered by the Swedish Lloyd from Lübecker Maschinenbau Gesellschaft, at Lübeck, are now available. The cargo vessels, which are of 500 tons d.w. each, will be delivered on July 1 and August 1, 1952, respectively. They will be built to the highest class of Germanischer Lloyd for shelterdeckers and their cargo space is 30,000 cu. ft. The propelling machinery consists of a 6-cyl. B. & W. Alpha diesel engine of 360 h.p., giving the vessel a speed of 9.5 knots. As in other similar vessels, built on modern principles, the engines are controlled from the bridge. It is the intention of Swedish Lloyd to put these vessels in service between Gothenburg and Hamburg/Bremen. When required they will also run to the east coast of England. The cargo supply is good and the shipowners have long felt the necessity of having a couple of handy-sized cargo vessels of this type. As the vessels are ice-strengthened, they may be useful for the transport of goods to Finland arriving at Swedish ports in the larger vessels of the Swedish Lloyd.

Steamer Converted to Motorship

The reconversion of the cargo vessel Ringö, owned by Rederi A/B Rivö, Gothenburg, from steamer to motorship has been described as a complete success. As the daily running expenses are now about 30 per cent lower, the reconversion cost of Kr. 200,000 will no doubt be repaid within a reasonable time. Formerly 6.5 tons of coal were consumed each 24 hours at a cost of Kr.825, whereas the 1,440 litres of diesel oil



Launch of the "Storheim"

The launch took place on September 6 of the single-screw motor tanker Storheim, ordered by A S Tank, of Oslo, from Eriksbergs Mek. Verkstads A B, Gothenburg. Launched by Mrs. Michael Holman, shown here together with Mr. Erik Haggstrom, managing director of the shipbuilders, on her right, and Mr. Hjalmar Bjorge, of A S Tank, the vessel is of 18,500 tons d.w., with dimensions of 526 ft. length b.p., 69 ft. 9 in. breadth moulded and 29 ft. 3 in. depth moulded, while her draught is about 30 ft. 5 in. The propelling machinery will consist of an 8-cylinder diesel engine of the two-stroke single-acting B. & W. type, developing 7,600 i.h.p. and giving a loaded trial speed of 14½ knots.

used during the same period now cost Kr.230. The speed is increased from 8 to 9 knots with the new engine, a 6-cyl. Alpha diesel of 350 h.p. Instead of a crew of 13 men, eight are sufficient in the reconverted vessel, which means a saving of Kr.150 a day. It is of interest to note that the motor is of the same type as the ones ordered by the Swedish Lloyd for the two coasters building at Lübeck. The motor may be disengaged from the propeller shaft, and the propeller blades are reversible.

In a petition submitted to the Government by Statens Skeppsprovnings Anstalt (Swedish State Shipbuilding Experimental Institute) the insufficient financial grants from the Government are brought to the fore. Whereas the corresponding institute in Holland has a staff of 80, the laboratory at Gothenburg has to meet the steadily increased burden of work with only 40. To able to cope with the many scientific problems, such as the causes of vibration and corrosion, friction, laminar and turbulent flow, resistance, etc., an increase of Kr.213,000 in salaries and Kr.19,000 per year in expenses is suggested. This would enable the institute



The new administrative office building in the Götaverken shipyard, Gothenburg

to employ a larger staff for consultant activities in connection with the research on hull form, construction of propellers and stability problems, and shipowners could have a group of specialists at their disposal. Moreover a further Kr.238,000 is needed for rebuilding the laboratories, while the extension of the workshops and administrative premises require some Kr.285,000. The procuring of new dynamometers would cost Kr.100,000 and a wave producer for the testing tank Kr.125,000. During following years the board also envisages several other projects, such as a cavitation laboratory for Kr.1.3 mn. and a small testing tank for Kr.800,000.

The "oldest steamer in the world," the 103 years old passenger vessel Mālaren, which was built at Norrköping in 1848 and made regular trips on the Lake of Mālar with passengers until the end of this summer, has been sold to a company at Gothenburg for scrapping. The Board of Fisheries is in need of a new survey vessel of the Swedish West Coast seine netter type with a length of 80 ft. According to the proposals submitted by the Board the building costs are estimated to be Kr.600,000 and the yearly running expenses Kr.844.475.

Norwegian Passenger Ship from British Yard

British shipyards are to submit tenders in October to the Norwegian-American Line for the construction of a new passenger liner to reolace the Stavangerijord. The final decision as to which yard will receive the contract is to be made towards the end of October. Mr. Hans Henriksen, managing director of the company, disclosed that it had been decided early in September to build a new liner for the trans-Atlantic service to New York. The new vessel will be a sister vessel to the Oslofjord, 16,344 tons gross, completed by the Netherlands Dock & Shipbuilding Company in 1949, although the cargo space of the new vessel will be ready for service in 1935, the liner will have accommodation for 100 first-class and un to 800 tourist-class passengers. She will have diesel machinery and a top speed of 20 knots. Difficulty has been encountered in finding shipyards that can make acceptable offers for the building of the new liner. The builders of the Oslofjord are already engaged in building a trans-Atlantic liner for the Swedish-America Line, while other Dutch yards are busy with tanker orders. It is stated that the company is confident that the Norwegian Government would approve the contract, although the law prescribes that the contract must first be arranged before the Government grants a licence for the building of a vessel in an overseas yard.

Danish Exhibit in London

Burmeister & Wain took part in the Engineering, Marine and Welding Exhibition at Olympia, in London. The area of the stand was 20 ft, by 60 ft. The exhibits comprised two working models of B. & W's latest two-stroke single-acting crosshead marine engines with evhinders and crankcase completely separated. Type 674-VFF-140 is a 6-cylinder 2-stroke single-acting crosshead engine with poppet valves, cylinder diameter 740 mm. and length of stroke 1,400 mm. The engine develops 6,540 i.h.p. at 125 r.p.m., and is produced for outputs from 4,300 to 13,080 i.h.p. Type 675-VFF-130/50 is a 6-cylinder 2-stroke single-acting crosshead coverless engine, cylinder diameter 750 mm., and length of stroke 1,500 plus 500 mm. The engine develops 9,180 i.h.p. at 120 r.p.m., and is produced for outputs from 6,120 to 15,300 i.h.p. A B. & W.-Aloha valveless engine for use in fishing vessels and small ships was also exhibited. This engine, of type 403-VO, is a 3-cylinder engine developing 180 h.p., and is produced for outputs from 90 to 360 h.p. The propeller blades of this engine may be reversed by the simple operation of a handle in the wheelhouse. The stand, a picture of ships built by Burmeister & Wain.

London Docks Cruise

In view of the success of the previous trips, the motor vessel Crested Eagle was chartered by the London & District Association of Chartered Shipbrokers to cruise down the River Thames and through the Royal Docks on September 17. The object of this cruise was to give members and students of the Institute of Chartered Shipbrokers an opportunity of seeing the practical side of the industry to which they are so closely associated. This object was certainly attained with due credit to Mr. Malone, of the Port of London Authority, who gave an excellent commentary during the course of the journey down-river and through the docks. There were 378 enthusiastic members and students on board and a prize of £5 was offered by the London & District Association for the best essay, to be submitted by October 1, on the afternoon's cruise. P.L.A, mads were issued free of charge from the purser's office to assist passengers in following the course of the river and defining the various land marks, Mr. H. E. Ruffle, chairman of the Council, and Mr. F. S. Pettersson, secretary, were present. Also present were Mr. R. G. Grout, director and secretary of the General Steam Navigation Co., Ltd., owners of the Crested Eagle, and Mr. L. Pemberton, in charge of the chartering department.

The British tugs Buster and Dextorous have left Rio de Janeiro towing the hulk of the old 19,200-tons Brazilian cruiser Sao Paulo. The cruiser is to be scrapped by the British Iron and Steel Corporation. She was built by Vickers-Armstrongs, Ltd., in 1909.



A view of the Burmeister & Wain stand at the Engineering, Marine & Welding Exhibition, Olympia

REVIEW OF TRADE HARBOURS

DOCKS EXECUTIVE'S REPORTS TO BRITISH TRANSPORT COMMISSION

The British Transport Commission has published the reports* made to it by their Docks & Inland Water-ways Executive following the Executive's visits to the principal port areas of the country during the years 1948-50. It will be recalled that the British Transport Commission is required, under Section 66 of the Transport Act, 1947, to keep the trade harbours of the country under review, in order to determine whether schemes should be prepared to secure their efficient and economical development, maintenance or management. The Commission delegated this duty of review to the Docks & Inland Waterways Executive and requested the Executive to advise whether in particular cases schemes should be prepared for submission to the Minister of Transport.

In carrying out its review the Executive met the port authorities concerned and had discussions with representatives of the users of the ports and of workers employed in them. The discussions were directed in particular to consideration of the following matters:

(a) Efficiency of operation, including adequacy of berthage and equipment, and performance of services to meet present and possible requirements.

(b) Financial circumstances.

Constitution of the port authority. (d) Whether advantages would be gained by grouping certain trade harbours with one another.

(e) Provision of services and labour conditions.

The Reports now published cover the port areas of the River and Firth of Forth; Dundee; the North East Coast; London; Merseyside, Manchester and Preston; Bristol and Avonmouth; and Cumberland, and con-Executive in respect of each of these areas. The Commission have already submitted to the Minister of Transport a Scheme for the River Tees and the Hartlepools, and propose to exercise their scheme-making powers under Section 66 of the Act in the case of the Clyde and of Aberdeen.

The following are the principal conclusions in the reports published:—

River and Firth of Forth

The circumstances of the ports round the Firth of Forth have not tended to develop any sense of community of in-terests between them, and in the absence of development of communications the estuary constitutes a substantial barrier between the north and south shores. Industrial conditions between the north and south shores. Industrial conditions are, however, changing, and with them there will be a considerable influx of nonulation. The Executive consider that unification of ownership and management to include the functions of the Forth Conservancy Board would conduce to development of the port services of the Forth area, and is essential if such development is to be conducted on the most economical and advantageous lines. In particular, it is considered that there is a good case for amalgamation of Leith and Granton. Leith and Granton.

Letth and Granton,

The extent of unification and the form it should take need, however, further study in the light of industrial changes, and the Executive feel it best to defer, for the present, a recommendation of a general scheme for this purpose. If such a scheme were made it should empower the to provide the services of towage, doring and handling and warehousing of goods, and to license persons to perform such services in the port,

Meanwhile, the Executive are impressed by the need for

Meanwhile, the Executive are impressed by the need for overtaking the arrears of maintenance of equipment in the Commission's ports of Grangemouth and Methil, and for consideration of the future of Bo'ness and Burntisland and the smaller observed such as Alloa, Charlestown and Pettyeur. These appear to be the most urgent problems, and are being provided by the more distriction of the property of proceeded with accordingly,

Dundee

The Executive consider that there is need for a more realistic approach to the problems of the nort. The various

Copies of the reports can be obtained from the Docks & Inland Waterways Executive, 22 Dorset Square, London, N.W. I., price 2s.

parties concerned should get together to examine their parties concerned should get together to examine their problems and concert action locally to ensure that the best and fullest use of the existing facilities is obtained, and that any additional facilities needed may be provided most economically, rather than look for the provision of additional berths at high cost.

It is not considered that in its present form the Harbour Trust is suitably constituted to undertake a critical examination of this nature: a body of 33 members seems far too large to administer an undertaking of the size of the port Dundee, and the composition of the body is both unnecesof Dundee, and the composition of the body is both unnecessarily complicated and unduly restricted in its field of choice; for example, it does not include any direct representation of labour employed in the port. Reconstitution of the Harbour Trust is regarded by the Executive as an essential preliminary to the investigation which they have recommended, but it is doubtful whether general agreement as to the best means of providing for future control will be reached locally and whether any agreement that may be reached will pay adequate regard to the intentions of the Transport Act. Transport Act,

Bearing in mind also the financial circumstances of the harbour undertaking, which in their view justify measures of centrol over capital expenditure, the Executive consider that greater efficiency and economy in administration would most readily be promoted by means of a scheme under Section 66 of the Act. They accordingly recommend that they should enter into consultation on the type of scheme best suited to the needs of the area, and propose that in the course of these consultations attention should also be given to the possible advantages of setting up an estuarial authority to include Tayport and other small harbour undertakings on the River Tay. Bearing in mind also the financial circumstances of the

Rivers Tyne and Wear

The Executive consider that there should be unification of the harbour undertakings on the River Tyne, and they are not fully satisfied that Tynemouth Corporation Quay should be excluded from such unification. They intend to submit not fully satisfied that Tynemouth Corporation Quay should be excluded from such unification. They intend to submit their detailed pronosals setting out the principal features which they consider should be incorporated in a scheme for the area. In addition to ensuring that the olanning of new port facilities would be undertaken by a single body, these proposals will include provisions for a more balanced composition of the governing body and a reduction in its size.

The area of the North East Coast is, in many respects, industrially homogeneous, a fact which, combined with the comparative proximity to each other of the ports and the similarity of their major activities, suggests that they

comparative proximity to each other of the ports and the similarity of their major activities, suggests that they should, in the interests of economy, be administered and develoned under a single control. This general conclusion is reinforced by the risk that under separate and independent management the oorts will develon a large surplus capacity which will become an incubus upon the shipping and trade which use them, or upon the localities in which they stand. The Executive have considered whether they should recom-

The Executive have considered whether they should recommend the making of a scheme which would unify the trade harbours of the Tyne and the Wear under one authority. harbours of the Tyne and the Wear under one authority. There appears, however, to be little disposition locally, either for the financially stronger authorities to accept responsibility for their weaker neighbours, or for the financially weaker to merge their individuality in a larger concern. To attempt complete unification immediately would, therefore, probably be premature. The Executive hanciany concern. To attempt complete unification immediately concern. To attempt complete unification immediately would, therefore, probably be premature. The Executive consider that as a first stage, a scheme should be promoted with the object of bringing the trade harbours of the Wear with the object of bringing the trade harbours of the Wear with the object of bringing the trade harbours of the Wear with the object of bringing the trade harbours of the wear of the w with the object of bringing the trade harbours of the Wear effectively under one management, and of establishing a smaller and more satisfactory constituted body to that pur-nose. This body should be subjected to the control of the British Transport Commission, at least in respect of capital expenditure. It is intended to submit proposals on these lines in due course.

The Executive does not consider any changes necessary for the norts of Blyth, Warkworth and Seaham.

Port of London

The Executive acknowledges the achievements of the Port of London Authority, its progressive policy of development and its prudent management of finances. As a direct result of its size, problems in the port are liable to have more widely felt consequences than similar situations in other ports. Against the background provided by the great array of port installations the following features stand out, at least in degree, as peculiar to the port:

(a) The large amount of traffic handled at riverside public wharves which are privately owned, and over which the Port Authority have no effective control.

(b) The large amount of traffic handled overside to lighters

and the consequent importance of the lighterage service. Any interruption or inadequacy in this service has an im-

Any interruption or inadequacy in this service has an immediate effect upon the operation of the port, but the Port Authority have no effective control over it.

(c) The large number and variety of separate employers operating in the port and the diversity of conditions under which the registered dock worker may be called upon to

work.

(d) The dock workers are represented by three distinct Unions, viz. the Transport & General Workers' Union and the National Amalgamated Stevedores' and Dockers' Union, which collectively cater for the general dock workers, and the Watermen, Lightermen, Tugmen and Bargemen's Union, which represents the majority of the lightermen.

The most disturbing factor in the port today is the state of labour relations, and it is the Executive's belief that this situation derives directly from the features

which they have set out above. In their view permanent improvement can be achieved, if:—

(1) The Port Authority is reconstituted so as to provide greater and more direct representation of labour employed in the nort

responsibility is vested in the reconstituted

ort Authority.
(3) Closer cohesion is secured between the employers in the port, coupled with greater cooperation between the employers and the Trade Unions, and the standardisation of labour agreements and conditions as a corollary to the

Dock Labour Scheme,
(4) A spirit of cooperation is substituted for one of rivalry

between the Trade Unions.

In all the circumstances the Executive have come to the conclusion that the efficient and economical operation of the port would be promoted by a scheme under Section 66 of the Transport Act, which, in their opinion, should provide, inter alia, for the reconstitution of the Port Authority; control by the Port Authority over the provision of port facilities and services: coordination through the British Transport Commission of capital development; and the application of

Part V of the Transport Act.

The Executive believe that an important factor in the labour problems of the port is the division of responsibility iations problems of the port is the division of responsibility between the Port Authority and the National Dock Labour Board. With two statutory bodies exercising jurisdiction in the same area, overlapping and doubt as to where responsibility lies almost inevitably occur, and the relations of employer and employed become confused. These are not matters with which it is nossible to deal in a scheme under the Transport Act, but the Executive are convinced that in addition to the action which they have a supposed to the convention of the property of the p the transport Act, but the Executive are convinced that in addition to the action which they have recommended under Section 66 of that Act, a thorough examination of the application of the Dock Labour Scheme in London is necessary in the interests of the efficient and harmonious operation of the port.

Merseyside and Manchester

The trade harbours of Merseyside and Manchester are served by a common estuary; each has a vital in-terest in its conservancy problems, and the shipping of each contributes financially to the maintenance of the navigation. Their trade, too, is intimately related, and there are strong competitive elements which make it desirable that the construction of new harbour works

should be closely coordinated.

The Executive therefore consider that in the interests of the efficient and economical conduct of these trade harbours, now divided into several different ownerships, it is desirable that some effective mersure of coordination between them that some effective mersure of coordination between them should be ensured for the nurnoses of planning development, of capital expenditure and of operating policy; the question would also arise of coordinating charges throughout the area by a charges scheme in accordance with Part V of the Transport Act. This coordination would be achieved in the fullest degree under a common ownershin and management, but the unification of nort authorities comprising such a variety and mass of installations would nose an administrative problem, the solution of which in present circumstances might be hamnered by the opnosing strength of local feeling. To what extent the various nort authorities would be pre-To what extent the various nort authorities would be prepared voluntarily to coordinate their respective policies and

pared voluntarily to coordinate their respective poincies and activities, it is difficult to say in the absence of any apparent inclination in that direction. Meanwhile, it is considered that efficiency and economy in the trade harbours of Merseyside and Manchester under review would be advanced by a scheme or schemes under Section 66 of the Transport Act which could deal with certain features that emerged. These include:

(a) Liverpool and Birkenhead.

(i) The lack of effective control by the port authority over the provision of stevedoring and master porterage

(ii) The lack of balance in the composition of the port anthority.

authority.

(iii) The inadequacy of the Board's sinking fund provision in relation to their present capital indebtedness and the magnitude of their reconstruction programme. These matters need to be viewed in relation to the large amount of obsolescence in the port and the absence of any overall assessment of the future requirements of the area as a whole. A measure of control by the British Transport Commission of capital expenditure and related financial matters is capitalized to be desirable.

is considered to be desirable, (b) Garston and Bromborough

In the event of such a scheme being proposed, it would be necessary also to give consideration to the unification of Garston and Bromborough with Liverpool and Birkenhead

under the new body. Manchester.

(i) As at Liverpool, it is desirable that there should be control, through the British Transport Commission, of unduly competitive spending on the provision of new facilities and of the application at either port of uneconomic charges specially designed to attract traffic from the other. The existing requirements as to amortisation of debt also call for some tightening up.

(ii) The size and composition of the board of directors differ from those of the prototype of body which is considered to be most conducive to economical and efficient administration. It is considered that the oresent managing body is until by the prototype and that there should be representaadministration. It is considered that the present managing body is unduly large, and that there should be representa-

body is unduly large, and that there should be representa-tion upon it of users and of organised labour. (The future of other minor docks and shipping places on the upper Mersey would also call for consideration.) As regards Preston and other ports on the Lancashire and Cumberland coasts, the Executive does not recommend, as an immediate step, any unification of these ports or the formation of a larger group extending as far south as Preston, but will give further consideration to the matter at a later stage. The Executive regards the port of Bristol as a special case and does not propose action by a scheme.

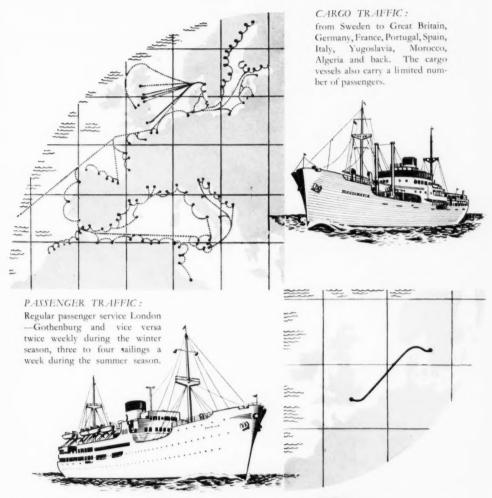
Improved Disembarkation Facilities at Holyhead

Details have come to hand of the two electrically operated adjustable platforms which British Railways (London Midland Region) has installed at Holyhead to speed the movement of passengers between ship and shore. The platmovement of passengers between ship and shore. The platforms, adjustable over a height range of 6 ft. 9 in., provide a level gangway at any state of the tde. Each platform has a timber deck 10 ft. by 9 ft. 6in., which projects 4 ft. beyond the face of the Customs building, and 12 independent steps are provided to give access from the platform to the upper floor. These steps are constructed of timber and protected with steel kicking plates and treads, and rest, when in the lowest position, on padstones in the enclosing walls. As the platform is moved up they are picked up in succession by the moving underframe and are arranged to form a level surface continuous with the deck. The steps are held in position by guides which run in small vertical channels recessed in the staircase walls.

The underframe of the platform was constructed of two 12 in, by 6 in, rolled steel beams 20 ft. 6 in, long, braced together 4 ft., apart and supported at their ends on four

together 4 ft, apart and supported at their ends on four bronze nuts which operate on vertical square thread screws. bronze nuts which operate on vertical square thread screws. These screws are carried on thrust bearings at their upper ends to ensure that they are always in tension under the weight of the platform. Each screw is supported between a pair of rolled steel channels which form the guides for maintaining the platform in position horizontally. The screws are rotated uniformly by means of an arrangement of bevel gears and shafts taking power through a single worm reduction unit coupled to a 5 h.p. electric motor, the whole of the operating gear being situated on foundations below the lowest level of the platform. An electro-mechanical brake is fitted to ensure that the driving gear is brought to rest and holds the platform in any desired position.

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COAL AND OIL

THE SEARCH FOR OIL

THE oil deadlock in Iran has given a stimulus to the worldwide search for new sources of production, in which the big oil concerns are cooperating extensively. The Anglo-Iranian Oil Co., Ltd., is at present pros-pecting, whether on its own or jointly with other com-panies, in four continents. In Iraq it operates in close association with its partners in the I.P.C. group. In Kuwait it shares the Kuwait Oil Company with an American concern. Kuwait is producing at present nearly as much crude oil as Iran was before the shutdown (32 million tons a year) and it is being rapidly expanded. Exploration work is going on, too, in India and Pakistan, while further east in Papua, New Guinea, extensive geological and geophysical surveys are being made and drilling is taking place. Parts of Africa are being surveyed, and a deep well is about to start delibration. start drilling in Nigeria. Reconnaissances are going on in Kenya and Tanganyika. Other activity is in Egypt, where there are oilfields on both sides of the Gulf of Suez. Experts are at work in Trinidad, delving into the possibilities of finding oil reserves under the shallow waters of the Gulf of Paria. Anglo-Iranian has the United Kingdom's only oil wells, which are very well. Our 200 valls, tetalling some 600 000 ft. here. small. Over 300 wells, totalling some 600,000 ft., have been drilled at its oilfield in Nottinghamshire. Production was raised to 120,000 tons a year during the war, but now it yields only about 45,000 tons. Near Formby, on the Lancashire coast, in an endeavour to find a deeper source from which the shallow oil in those parts is thought to come, test wells are to be drilled which are programmed to go down about 3,5000 ft. Drilling is now in progress on the dunes just above high water mark. The company has recently acquired prospecting rights in Sicily and is now conducting exploratory surveys. Prospecting is a costly business and often no oil is struck after extensive drilling and boring. In Papua more than £2,000,000 has been spent Anglo-Iranian with no success so far; but exploration goes on continuously.

Trading in Coal-

The depressing consequences of the decline of British coal exports have been summed up admirably by Sir Herbert Merrett, chairman of Powell Duffryn, Ltd., in his statement to shareholders. Despite the exclusion of the company from trading in coal in Great Britain by the National Coal Board, Powell Duffryn, Ltd., through its exporting houses, continues to trade in the movement of coal from one country to another. Consumption throughout the world is increasing, but the sources of supply are changing rapidly. "At unbelievable cost, this country has lost its hold upon its export markets through its inability to produce the fuel to meet the demand. Collieries are fully employed and overtime is being worked, yet it is found necessary to import dollar coal to ensure our industrial security. British-owned coaling depots are largely dependent on foreign coals to earn profits taxable in this country, and, as Sir Herbert commented, "it would be idle to pretend that this is a passing phase." As to the future, Sir Herbert continued, "I very much doubt whether, even if there were an unexpected increase in British output, we shall in future years be able, in competition, to regain our markets at the prices we shall be compelled to demand to enable us to meet the soaring cost of raising coal under the monopolistic régime of owner-ship which has been imposed upon us." Fortunately, the company has not been idle, for it is now the largest individual shareholder in the Wankie Colliery, Southern Rhodesia.

-and Oil

In the orientation of the company's interests under the new régime, nothing of greater importance has happened, of course, than the expansion of its investments and direct interest in the oil marketing industry, particularly with its 50 per cent interest, with the Soceny-Vacuum Oil Co., Inc., of New York, in the Vacuum Oil Co., Ltd. The construction of the new refinery at Coryton is proceeding almost to schedule, and the incorporation of a catalytic cracking unit will allow the refinery to increase quality and quantity of petrol produced and reduce the quantity of low-grade residual fuels. Early in 1953, when it is hoped that the refinery will be in production, Vacuum will have available for disposal, petrol, diesel and fuel oils, in addition to lubricants. Plans are being developed to provide for the consequent expansion of the Vacuum organisation to deal with the wider range of products. In other directions, the oil business, through the subsidiary Cory Brothers & Co., Ltd., is expanding and is producing good results. Storage and bunkering facilities at Las Palmas are being enlarged to deal with a throughput of up to 1,000,000 tons per annum. At Barry Dock facilities for storage have been increased by more than 30,000 tons, and further tankage of 30,000 tons will bring storage at that port to more than 120,000 tons. Through the subsidiary, Millers & Corys, the turnover of the oil bunkering depot at St. Vincent, Cape Verde Islands, is steadily rising, and the prospects of the new oil depot at La Goulette, Tunisia, are "distinctly fencouraging."

Shorter Notes

The Type Improvement Commission has decided to cut down to quay level the old disused coal staiths at the Albert Edward Dock, North Shields. The former staith will be used as a lay-by berth.

The Blyth Harbour Commissioners report that coal shipments in August amounted to 507,168 tons, an increase of 29,282 tons on last year. For the eight months of the year, shipments were 4,130,035 tons, compared with 4,086,883 tons in 1950 and 3,690,599 tons in 1938s.

Coal and coke shipments from the Tyne in August amounted to 612,205 tons, a decrease of 87,521 tons on 1950. For the first eight months of the year shipments totalled 5,644,552 tons, a decrease of 743,264 tons on last year. The shipments to foreign borts this year are down 684,735 tons, while those to London are 72,250 tons higher.

Powell Duffryn, Ltd., have decided at an early date to merge the businesses of two of their wholly owned subsidiary companies, Cory Brothers & Co., Ltd., and Gueret, Llewellyn & Merrett, Ltd. The activities of Gueret, Llewellyn & Merrett, Ltd., will thereafter be conducted under the name of Cory Brothers & Co., Ltd., but will continue to be managed and conducted by the same personnel as hitherto. Prior to the effective date of the merger, which will be announced later, certain of the higher executive officers of Gueret, Llewellyn & Merrett, Ltd., will be appointed to the board of Cory Brothers & Co., Ltd.

Mr. H. C. Fletcher, head of the firm of Fletcher & Company, coal and ship brokers, Newcastle-on-Tyne, has withheld navment of £50 of his income tax as a protest against Government extravagance. Mr. Fletcher said he was concerned with Government wastage regarding fuel. He referred to coal supplied direct to Government departments by the N.C.B. without the agency of commercial brokers, Mr. Fletcher said the N.C.B. charged 9d, a ton for "services" which private firms did not charge. He stated that he had written to the Prime Minister, the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Director of Public Prosecutions regarding this anomaly in charges, but had gained no satisfaction.

Chamber of Shipping Tramp Freight Index

The Chamber of Shipping index of tramp freight rates for August, 1951, is 149.3 (1948 = 100). This compares with 179.6 for the previous month and 86.6 for August, 1950. The index is based on tramp fixtures reported during the month, only fixtures in sterling being used.



THE TRAIN FERRY "ST. GERMAIN"

NEW FRENCH VESSEL FOR SERVICE BETWEEN DOVER AND DUNKIRK

Built by the Elsinore Shipbuilding & Engineering Company, Elsinore, Denmark, for the French National Railways, the St. Germain has a deadweight tonnage of 1,300 tons and a maximum speed of 18 knots. The vessel has an overall length of 379 ft. 8 in. and is provided with four rail tracks arranged to give the greatest possible length. The train deck is covered with planking at the level of the rails to enable this deck to be used for motor vehicles if required. The promenade deck has a hangar for 25 motor cars which can be driven on board direct from the quayside over ramps. The propelling machinery of the St. Germain comprises two 9-cylinder diesel engines, direct-coupled to her two shafts. These engines are built by the builders under licence from Burmeister & Wain and are of the two-stroke single-acting type, developing 9,600 indicated horse power. Although welding has been employed in a large measure, the frames are revieted to the shell, while at the request of the builders one riveted strake has been retained. The St. Germain was fully described in THE SHIPPING WORLD of November 1, 1950



First-class dining saloon



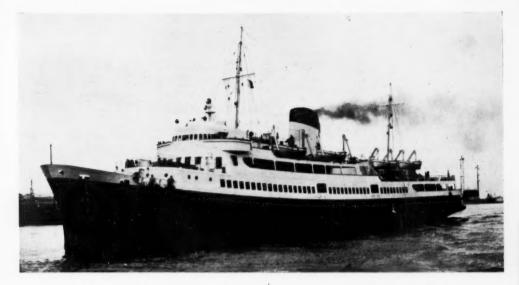
Train deck



Motor car hangar



Sun deck



CROSS-CHANNEL VESSEL "COTE D'AZUR"

PASSENGER STEAMER FOR FRENCH RAILWAYS' CALAIS-FOLKESTONE SERVICE

The latest addition to the fleet of passenger vessels operating the cross-Channel services is the twin-screw steamship Cote d'Azur. The vessel is the first of two bassenger ships ordered from the Forges et Chantiers de la Mediterrance, Le Havre, by the French Railways. She replaces two predecessors, the Cote d'Argent and Cote d'Azur, which were lost during the war, and which previously operated the Dover-Calais service. Requisitioned in May 1940 by the French Navy, the original Cote d'Azur was sunk by aerial bombardment at Dunkirk soon after, on May 27. The vessel was refloated in 1941 by the Germans, who converted her to a minelayer and used her during the remainder of the war in the Baltic. She disappeared in August 1944, being either sunk or sahotaged outside Stettin. The builders of the new Cote d'Azur have since the war comoleted two other cross-Channel ships, the Arromanches and Londres for the Newhaven-Dieppe route. These vessels, however, were on the building ways at the outbreak of war in 1939.

With accommodation for 1,430 massengers, 530 of which can be provided with berths, either in the 16 cabins fitted or in dornitories, the Cote d'Azur has a smart modern appearance with a raked stem, cruiser stern and a large streamlined funnel built in light alloy. The funnel is of THE latest addition to the fleet of passenger vessels operating

the "Strombos" design, natented by the Forges et Chantiers de la Mediterranee and M. J. Valensi, a Marseilles scientist. This tyne of funnel is designed to ensure that gases are carried clear of the shin and do not create a nuisance to passengers resting on the sun deck. The cross-section of the funnel is shaved like a symetrical aerofoil and in side elevation resembles a short half wing of an aeronlane with a rounded tin forming the top. Similar funnels have already been fitted to the French nassenger vessels President de Cazalet (comoleted by Swan, Hunter & Wigham Richardson, Ltd., in 1947), Kairouan, Koutoubia and Ville de Marseille and the new Dutch passenger liner Rijndam, featured in last week's Shipping World,

The principal particulars of the Cote d'Azur are as follows:

Length overall			364 ft. 21 in.
Length b.p			347 ft. 10 in.
Breadth, moulded			48 ft. 41 in
Depth to main deck			26 ft. 3 in.
Draught, average loaded			12 fc. 2 in.
Displacement			3.030 tons
Speed (contract)			24 knots
Spend (carried)			211 knots
Horsepower, maximum			22.000
Horsenower normal			16 000

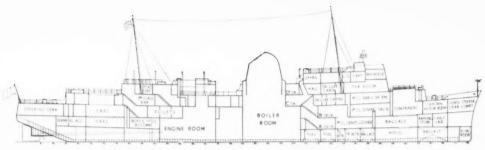
The vessel has been built to the requirements of Bureau Veritas and complies with the agreements of the 1948 London Convention on safety of life at sea, and with the Seattle Conference as regards accommodation for the crew. Adequate subdivision has been provided in the hull in case of flooding. Welding has been largely employed in the construction of the decks and the plating above the main deck, while below this the butts are welded and the longitudinal seams are riveted.

Passenger Accommodation

Careful consideration was given in the design stage to the layout of the accommodation in order to give the passengers the maximum comfort in a pleasantly luxurious and decorative setting. On the upper deck is a large tea lounge with natural lighting from three sides. Also situated on this deck are two cabines de grande luxe. Arranged forward on the main deck is a smoking saloon and bar for first-class passengers, the third-class bar being arranged aft on this deck. Between the two bars is a large public lounge and opening on to it are 14 cabines de luxe. The first and third-class restaurants are on the lower deck, where also is situated a ladies third-class saloon. Arranged between decks



View of boat deck, showing "Strombos" funnel



Profile of the French Railways' passenger vessel "Cote d'Azur

are two first-class saloons, one for ladies and one for gentlemen

Accommodation for the deck officers is arranged abaft the Accommodation for the deck officers is arranged abaft the wheelhouse, while the engineer officers are accommodated in cabins adiacent to the machinery casings. Heating of the accommodation is provided by four Thermotank units and by steam radiators. The cooking equipment is electrically operated. There are two large eargo holds, the forward hold being arranged for the carriage of baggage, while motorcars are carried in the after hold.

The Cote d'Azur will enter harbours stern first, and to facilitate mayerments she is fitted with a radder both for-

The Cote d Agar will enter harpours stern first, and to faethtate movements she is fitted with a rudder both forward and aft. Each rudder is operated by telemotor control and twin electric motors are installed as a safety precaution. Provision is made for anchoring and mooring forward by two combined vertical spindle windlasses and capstans driven by electric motors fitted below deck. There are two capstans installed aft similar to those fitted forward, but without cable lifters. To ensure flexibility of operation, this deck machinery has been provided with Ward Leonard booster control.

Navigational Aids

The vessel is equipmed with a comprehensive set of modern navigational equipment. Wireless telegraphy and wireless telephony are provided, in addition to a public address system and an internal telephone system. There is also fitted radar and echo-sounding and radio direction finding equipment.

equipment.

The twin serews of the Cote d'Azur are driven by two sets of single-reduction geared Parsons steam turbines constructed at St. Denis by Atchers et Chantiers de la Loire. The machinery is installed in three compartments, the two main boilers being arranged in the forward compartment, while the auxiliary machinery is in the centre compartment and the main engines in the after compartment. The two sets of geared turbines are each provided with a high pressure, low pressure and astern turbine, steam from the two boilers being supplied at 428 lb./sq. in., with a temperature of 680 deg. F.

Both hoilers are of the FCM 47 patented oil-burning type built by the shipbuilders. They have a heating surface of 8.396 sq. ft., with an evaporation of about 134,000 lb, per hour, and are remarkable for the elimination of brickwork and their rapid steam raising qualities. The absence of brickwork is a direct result of the disposition of the boiler brickwork is a direct result of the disposition of the boiler brickwork is a direct result of the disposition of the combustion chamber with the exception of the space required on the forward side of the boiler to take the burners. Due to their accelerated circulation, boilers of this type can be brought to pressure in slightly less than half an hour. The two sets of main shafting are supported in SKF roller bearings. In the centre machinery compartment are three 300 kW Sulzer diesel generators supplying current at 220 volts. There is also an emergency diesel generator of 100 kW. The auxiliary boiler providing heating steam is arranged for steam supply to the distiller when required.

River Steamer Converted to Motorship

The twin-screw bassenger and cargo steamer R. H. Carr (324 tons gross), built in 1927 by J. Crichton & Co., Ltd., Saltney, for river and coastal service in British Guiana, has recently been converted to a motorship. The propelling Sattley, for river and coascil service in British Guinai, and recently been converted to a motorship. The propelling machinery now consists of two Lister-Blackstone marine diesel engines which take un so much less space than the original steam engines that it has been possible to enlarge original steam engines that it has been nossible to enlarge and improve the bassenger accommodation, crew's quarters, and cargo sbace. The vessel draws 6 ft. 6 in, when loaded and is 152 ft, in length overall, Carrying 400 first- and second-class bassengers, She is engaged in a regular service between Georgetown, Wismar and Mackenzie on the Demerara River. The conversion work was carried out by Sproston's, Ltd., Georgetown (Demerara), at their own shinyard. The two Blackstone engines are of type EPYMDRs, and together develop 480 b.h.b., whereas the original steam engines gave only 360 b.h.b.. The vessel, now having a speed of 12 knots, is able to move up and down the river without regard to the state of the tide.



First-class smoking room and bar



First-class restaurant

ROUND THE SHIPYARDS

Work in Progress on Merseyside

By THE SHIPPING WORLD'S Own Correspondent

ACTIVITY in the shipbuilding and shiprepairing indus-Activity in the shipbounding and shippeparing industries has been well maintained during the past month. So far as shipbuilding is concerned the Birkenhead yard of Cammell Laird & Co., Ltd., continues to be fully extended with a programme of tonnage building or on extended with a programme of tonnage building or on order which will see little relaxation of effort for the next four years. The month saw the completion of the tanker Presidente Peron, third of the four 18,000-tons tankers ordered by the Yacimentos Petroliferos Fiscales, Buenos Aires. She is the fourth ship to be completed by the Birkenhead firm this year. Meanwhile, work is proceeding on the tanker British Crown, a vessel of 28,000 tons deadweight building for the British Tanker Co., Ltd. The British Crown is to be launched in mid-October, and will be the 14th vessel launched at Birkenhead for these owners. When completed she will be propelled by a set of geared turbines giving her a service speed of about 15 knots. She will have a gross tonnage of about 18,000 tons and a cargo tank capacity for about 26,000 tons of oil fuel. After the launch the British Crown will join the Ellerman cargo liner City of Brisbane and the Booth liner Hildebrand now fitting out in the firm's wet basin, where the aircraft carrier H.M.S. Ark Royal is also completing.

Increase in Shiprepairing

Reports from various shiprepairing firms indicate that during the month there has been an encouraging increase in the number of ships undergoing repairs. Latest official returns show that in July there were 1,220 men unemployed in the industry—the lowest figure since November 1947. Of the July unemployed total 284 were skilled workers, two semi-skilled, 930 unskilled and four were draughtsmen and clerical workers. The August figures when published should show a still further improvement.

In addition to general work and voyage repairs there have been several interesting contracts. These have included pre-commissioning work on the new aircraft carrier H.M.S. Eagle in the Gladstone Graving Dock. This has now been completed and the Eagle has sailed for Belfast, where she was built and where she will shortly be fully commissioned. Now occupying the Gladstone Graving Dock is the 35,000-tons battleship Duke of York which arrived in the Mersey under tow from Portsmouth on September 7. Certain special Certain special work is to be carried out in the ship, after which she will leave Liverpool for the Clyde, where she is to be laid up in the Gareloch with other units of the Reserve Fleet. Another interesting ship now in the Canada Graving Dock is the whaling factory Abraham Larsen, 22,974 tons gross, which is being prepared in readiness for her forthcoming Antarctic whaling season.

Preparation for Royal Voyages

With the arrival of the liner Empress of France from Canada on September 21, the unprecedented position arose on Merseyside—and one which is unlikely to be repeated—of two liners being in the port both preparing for Royal voyages. The Empress of France was only in port for the period of her normal turnround and was due to sail on September 25 with Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh among passengers. The vessel, however, left without her Royal voyagers, who decided to fly to Canada, in view of the King's health. Meanwhile on the other side of the river, at the shipyard of Cammell Laird & Co., work was proceeding in the conversion of the Shaw Savill and Albion liner Gothic, in which the King and Queen and Princess Margaret are to sail to Australia next January. conversion work is based on plans approved by the King and is being carried out by Cammell Laird working under the direction of the Admiralty and in con-junction with the Shaw Savill and Albion Line. The conversion is expected to be completed by December.

No record of the past month on Merseyside would be complete without reference to the loss the shipbuilding industry has suffered as a result of the death of Sir Robert S. Johnson, chairman of Cammell Laird & Co., Ltd. As already reported in The Shipping World Sir Robert had been with Cammell Laird for 31 years, in the last ten of which he had been chairman. The particular and Merseyside in general was well summed up in the many tributes paid to his memory. Another serious loss to Merseyside came with the announcement of the retirement of Lt.-Col. Sir Henry Grayson, chairman of Grayson Rollo & Clover Docks, Ltd. Aged 86, Sir Henry has been associated with the company for 60 years, taking over control in 1904 when it was named H. & C. Grayson, Ltd. He has been succeeded as chairman by Mr. Denys H. H. Grayson.

OFFICIAL NOTICES

New Companies

New Companies

Tonnage Stabilisation Association, Ltd., 3-6 Bury Court, St. Mary Axe, London, E.C.3.—Registered September 10. To compensate the members of the company upon the mutual principle against losses incurred in the business of shipowning, etc. Committee: Not named. Subscribers: C. F. B. Arthur, Bevis Marks House, Bevis Marks, London, E.C.3; J. A. Billmeir, 9 St. Helens Place, London, E.C.3; and S. S. W. Dalgleish, L. G. Dann, F. P. Longton, R. D. Ropner, J. C. Denholm, H. G. Mann, W. G. Ropner, T. Dunlop, junior, W. Headlam, L. Mann, P. Runciman, K. Fenton, J. H. Henderson, A. R. Newnum, L. Seager, Sir Phillip Haldim, R. M. de Larrinaga, D. I. Rees, R. M. Turnbull, D. M. Robinson and F. J. Harrison.

Quayside Engineering Co., Ltd., Brougham Street, Stockton-on-Tees, Co. Durham.—Registered September 6, To carry on business of chemical, heating, air conditioning, marine, mechanical, electrical and general engineers, etc. Nominal capital: £500 in £1 shares. Directors: N. Meleod and Mrs. N. McLeod (beth permt.), 6 Conifer Crescent, Billingham, Co. Durham.

and Mrs. N. McLeod (b. Billingham, Co. Durham.

Billingham, Co. Durham.

Helmsman Shipping Co., Ltd., 136-8 Minories, London, E.C.3.—Registered September 11. To construct vessels for the carriage of oil by sea, and to carry on business of shipomers and charterers, etc. Nominal capital: £100 in £1 shares. Permanent directors: C. S. Rowbotham, The Rose Garden, Sonning-on-Thames, Berks.: J. F. Rowbotham, Latham House, How Green, Chipstead, Surrey.

[Information from Jordan's Davily Register of New Companies]

DUBLIN SHIPPING Co., LTD. Registered in Dublin August 31. Capital £30,000 in £1 shares. Directors: Not named, Subscribers (each with one share): Roderick B. McConnell, solicitor, and Kathleen Curley, clerk, both of 24 Dame Street, Dublin

Change of Name

IMPROVED SUBMERGED LOG CO., LTD., Parliament Mansions, Abbey Orchard Street, London, S.W.I, nautical instrument manufacturers, etc.—Name changed to Submerged Log Co., Ltd., on September 6.

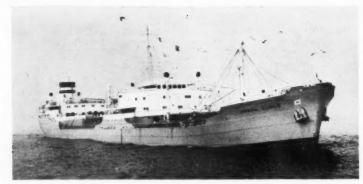
Increase of Capital

DRAYTON STEAMSHIP Co., LTD., 27-8 Finsbury Square, London, E.C.2.—Increased by £149,900, in £1 ordinary shares, beyond the registered cavital of £100. At March 29, 1951, Dover Navigation Co., Ltd., held 98 £1 shares out of 100 issued.

Underwater Television

Underwater Television

In connection with the development of the television equipment used in the identification of the lost submarine Affray, British Insulated Callender's Cables, Ltd., received a request from the Admirally to solve the urgent problem of producing a television camera cable to meet the particularly arduous conditions. The required cable was produced and supplied within a few days. Its design is similar to the company's 32-core type extensively used for B.B.C. broadcasts, but it was provided with an additional special protective sheathing making it suitable for use many fathoms under the sea. It was possible, therefore, to link the camera (258 ft. under the sea) with the control equipment on board the salvage vessel by a single cable capable of dealing with video signals, scan currents, power supply and all the necessary circuits. necessary circuits.



Motor Tanker " Hoegh Eagle "

Of 15,083 tons gross, the single-screw motor tanker Hoegh Eagle has been handed over to Leif Hoegh & Co., of Oslo, by Sir James Laing & Sons, Ltd. The Hoegh Eagle, a sister ship of the Hoegh Arrow, completed in November of last year, has a deadweight of 22,808 tons on a summer draught of 31 ft. 11½ in. Her principal dimensions are 604 ft. length o.a., 565 ft. b.p., 74 ft. 9 in. breadth moulded and 41 ft. 6 in. depth moulded. Two longitudinal bulkheads, together with transverse bulkheads, tivide the cargo space into seven centre and 14 wing stanks. The propelling machinery has been supplied by William Doxford & Sons, Ltd., and consists of a 6-cylinder two-stroke single-acting opposed-piston diesel engine, providing a speed of 14½ knots

Up-River Collier "Sydenham"

The single-screw motor collier Sydenham completed her maiden voyage from the Tyne to East Greenwich power station on September 14. Built by the Burntisland Shipbuilding Co., Ltd., for the South Eastern Gas Board, the vessel is of the "flation" type designed to navigate the 17 low span bridges of the River Thames to Wandsworth. She has a gross tonnage of 1,930 and a deadweight of 2,875 tons on a draught of 17 ft. 1 in. She has a length of 265 ft. 10 in. b.p. breadth 39 ft. 6 in. Her single screw is driven by an 8-cylinder two-stroke single-acting diesel engine built by British Polar Engines, Ltd., developing 1,150 b.h.p.



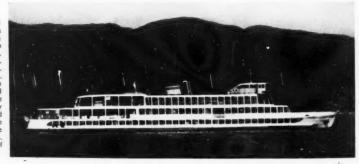
Passenger and Cargo Ship

Built by the Caledon Shipbuilding & Engineering Co., Ltd., for the Straits Steamship Co., Ltd., for the Straits Steamship Co., Ltd., Singapore, the Kimanis is a twin-screw passenger and cargo motorship. Of 3,100 tons gross, the Kimanis has dimensions of 312 ft. length o.a., 285 ft. b.p., 51 ft. breadth moulded and 22 ft. depth moulded to main deck. Accommodation is provided for 40 first-class and 24 second-class passengers, in addition to 500 unberthed passengers. The propeling machinery, supplied by British Polar Engines, Ltd., comprises two 8-cylinder two-stroke single-acting diesel engines, developing a total of 2,560 b.h.p. The Kimanis has a speed of 13 knots



Japanese Passenger Vessel "Hari Maru"

The twin-screw passenger vessel Hari Maru was built at the Sakurajima yard of the Hitachi Shipbuilding & Engineering Co., Ltd., for The Biwako Kisen Co., Ltd., for The Biwako Kisen Co., Ltd., for The Biwako Kisen Co., Ltd., of 596 tons gross, she carries a total of 483 passengers. Her principal dimensions are 188.6 ft. length o.a., 173.9 ft. b.p., 27.9 ft. breadth moulded and 7.23 ft. depth moulded, while she has a designed load draught of about 5 ft. The main machinery has been supplied by Niigata Tekkosho K.K., Niiga:a, and comprises two 6-cylinder four-stroke single-acting diesel engines. These engines develop a total of 950 b.h.p. and provide a maximum speed of 14 knots



NEW CONTRACTS

	No. of			in Great Bri	Dimensions		eland Propelling	Total	Engine	1
Shipowners	Ships	Type	Gross	Deadweight	(ft.)	(knots)	Machinery	h.p.	Builders	Shipbuilders
Chas, Rowbotham & Sons	1	Tanker	-	550	167 × 27.5 × 11	-	British Polar diesel	450	-	Clelands (Successors)
Soc. di Nav. Marittima Svixzera, Coira	1	Tanker	12,300	Commonweal 18,000	525 - 72.75 - 39.83	n Yards	Diesel	7,000	-	Cant. Riuniti dell' Adriatico, Monfalcone
Fratelli d'Amico, Rome	1	Tanker	19,000	32,000	619.5 b.p. ×86 × 45.5	-	Steam turbine	13,000	-	Cant. Riuniti dell Adriatico, Trieste
Navebras S.A. Rio de Janeiro	1	Towboat	62	-	60.42 - 19.66 - 5.92	-	Twscr diesel	320	-	Nippon Steel Tube Co., Shimizu
Algemeen Vracht- kantor, Rotterdam	1	Tanker	-	750	_	-	Diesel	-	-	Bijker's Aannem- ingsbedrijf, Gorinchem
French owners	1	Tanker	1,150	-		-	Diesel	-	-	Bijker's Aannemings.
Spliethoff's Bevrachtings Amsterdam	1	Coaster	875	-	-	-	Werkspoor diesel	500	_	Gebr. G. & H. Bodewes, Martenshoek
Porta Hamburger Reederei, Hamburg	1	Cargo	900	1,220	215 × 35.5 × 13.65	11	M.A.K. diesel	1,000	-	Jos. L. Meyer, Papenburg a.d. Ems
Hendrik Fisser Schiffs., Emden	2	Cargo	_	1,220 (each)	-	-	Deutz	1,000 (each)	-	Jos. L. Meyer
Franz Haniel & Cie., Duisburg	1	Cargo	-	1,100	254.3 b.p. 39.4 × 23	12	M.A.N. diesel	1,600	-	Gutehoffnung- shutte A.G., Walsum-on- Rhine
Flota Mercante Grancolombiana, Bogota	4	Cargo	3,950 (each)	5,900 (each)	395 b.p 55 - 33.5	-	Diesel	4,275 (each)	-	Canadian Vickers Montreal
Central American S.S. Agency, New York	1	Tanker	29,000	40,000	721.83 × 95.16 × 33.3 (draught)	16.5	Steam curbine	17,500	-	Howaldtswerke, Hamburg

LAUNCHES

		Ship's Name			reat Britain a ate Tonnages	and Northern I					1
Date	Shipowners	and/or Yard No.	Туре	Gross	Deadweight	Dimensions (ft.)	(knots)	Propelling Machinery	h.p.	Engine Builders	Shipbuilders
Sept. 5	River S.N. Co.	Aftab (161)	-	550	-		_	-		-	(Successors)
Sept. 10	Texas Co. of New York	(168)	Tank barge	112	_	-		-	-	-	(Successors)
Sept. 14	Cia. Sud-Americana de Vapores, Valparaiso	Tofo (1246)	Cargo	6,800	8,800	415 b.p 57.5 - 34	10.75	Trexp. steam	-	Shipbuilders	Wm. Gray
Sept. 17	Royal Navy	M.T.B. 5720	Torpedo	-	-	123 × 20	_	Diesel and	-	-	Vosper, Ltd.
Sept. 18	London & Overseas Freighters	London Victory (448)	Tanker	12,500	18,200	553.42 o.a. and 525 b.p 71 - 39.25	15	6-cyl., 2-str. Doxford diesel	6,800	N.E. Marine	Furness S.B.
Sept. 19	Overseas Tankship (U.K.)	Caltex Kenya	Tanker	8,430	12,000	490 o.a. 28.3 (draught)	-	5-cyl. diesel	_	Shipbuilders	Wm. Doxford
				Com	nonwealth an	d Foreign Yards					
Aug. 21	Gorthons Rederier	Margit Gorthan (118)	Tanker	10,170	16,000	514.75 o.a. × 65.75 × 36.83	15	8-cyl., 2-str. diesel	8,600	-	Oresunds- varvet, Landskrona
Aug. 24	U.S.S.R.	Norilsk (158)	Pass, and cargo	4,500	2,300	335 o.a.	15	Twin diesels	3,000	Stablimento Grandi Motori Fiat	Cant. del Mediter- raneo, Pietra Ligure
Sept. 5	Rederi A B Gylfe, Helsingborg	Maria Gorthon (318)	Tanker	8,600	13,300	465 b.p. × 62 × 34.5	14	7-cyl., 2-str. M.A.N. diesel	4,500	Shipbuilders	Kockums M.V., Malmo
Sept. 6	A/S Tank, Oslo	Storheim (417)	Tanker	11,750	18,500	526 b.p 69.75 - 29.25	14.5	8-cyl., 2-str. B. & W. diesel	7,600	Shipbuilders	Eriksbergs M.V. Gothenburg

TRIAL TRIPS

		Ship's Name	1	Yards in Gr Approxima		nd Northern I	Speed	Propelling	Total	Engine	
Date	Shipowners	Yard No.	Type	Gross	Deadweight	(ft.)	(knots)	Machinery	h.p	Builders	Shipbuilders
Sept. 13	Skibs A/S Athos. Flekkefjord	Bernhard Hanssen (1239)	Tanker	8.800	12,505	500.25 o.a. 62.79 × 35.5	12.5	Sinscr., two red. geared 6-cyl. Polar diesels	4,720	Shipbuilders	Wm. Gray
Sept. 18	British Tanker Co.	British Pioneer (97)	Tanker	8,500	12,500	463 b.p. × 61.5 × 34	-	Sinscr., 6-cyl., 4-str. B. & W. diesel	3,200	John G. Kincaid	S.B.
Sept. 20	A/R Julian (Hillman Resten) Bergen	Majorian (118)	Tanker	16,400	24,500	606 o.a. and 565 b.p. × 80 × 42.5	13	6-cyl., 2-str. Doxford diesel	7,200	Shipbuilders	Vickers- Armstrongs Walker
Sept. 20	Coast Lines	Western Coast (476)	Cargo	812	1,250	220 b.p. × 35 × 21	12	7-cyl., 2-str. Atlas diesel	1,140	British Polar Engines	Goole S.B.
		**			nonwealth and	foreign Yards					
_	Polish S.S. Co.	Nysa	Cargo	-	-	_	-	Diesel	-	_	Stocznia Gdanska, Gdansk
Aug. 29	Hamburg-America Line	Spreewald	Cargo	5,056	7,795	440.73 o.a. ×56.1 × 26.6	13.75	6-cyl., 2-str. M.A.N. diesel	3,500	Shipbuilders	Howaldts- werke, Hamburg
Aug. 30	Rederi A B Disa, Stockholm	Paranagua (113)	Cargo	2,100	3,775	330 b.p. × 47 × 19.83	14.75	7-cyl., 2-str. diesel	3,700	A/B Gotaver- ken, Gothenburg	Oresunds- varvet, Landskrona
Aug. 31	Gebrs, Broere N.V.	Neeltje B	Coaster	499	900	182.9 × 28.7 × 12.7	-	Brons diesel	500	Cothenburg	De Haan & Oerlemans, Heusden
Sept. 7	Skibs A/S Osthav, Oslo	Ishav (333)	Tanker	10,451	16,175	533.25 o.a. and 500 b.p. × 63 × 38.5	14.5	8-cyl., 2-str. M.A.N. diesel	5,500	Shipbuilders	Kockums M.V., Malmo
Sept. 11	A. O. Andersen Shipping Co. A/S, Oslo,	Bellona (658)	Tanker	11,050	17,270	540.66 o.a. × 66 × 30.25	14.5	9-cyl., 2-str. diesel	8,000	Shipbuilders	A/B Gotaverken Gothenburg

T. W. T.

New Directors of Barclay, Curle

AS previously announced in THE SHIPPING WORLD, Mr. James B. McNee and Mr. Walter H. McLay have been appointed directors of Barclay, Curle & Co., Ltd., together with Mr. Norval M. Lindsay, secretary of the company. Mr. James Glichrist was at the same time appointed vice-chairman of the firm. Photographic portraits of both Mr. Lindsay and Mr. Glichrist appeared in THE SHIPPING WORLD of August 8, 1951. Mr. McNee (left) is assistant to the general manager of the North British Engine Works. He entered Barclay, Curle & Company as an apprentice in 1903, and has been at the North British Engine Works since 1913 as designer, chief draughtsman and technical manager, before reaching his present position. Mr. McLay (right), assistant general manager at the Clydeholm shipyard, started with the company in 1912. He became chief draughtsman in 1927 and assistant general manager in 1942. He is a member of the executive committee of the Clyde Shipbuilders' Association, and a member of the Institution of Naval Architects and the Institution of Engineers and Shipbuilders' in Scotland



MARITIME NEWS IN BRIEF

From Correspondents at Home and Overseas

M. a. G. Venkateswaram has taken over as chairman of the Madras Port Trust from Mr. G. P. Alexander, who is retiring. Mr. Alexander received his training in harbour engineering at a Scottish port. In 1930 he went to Madras and served as executive engineer and deouty chief engineer, Madras Port. In 1933, when the department was reorganised, he was placed in charge as port engineer. In 1944 he succeeded Sir G. Armstrong as chairm in. Mr. G. Venkateswaram served the Madras Government as Chief Presidency Magistrate and Secretary to the Revenue Department, and later as Administrative Officer of Cochin Port.

ment, and later as Administrative Omeer of coemir for.

A deriver for the rapid determining of a ship's course and speed has been natented by Mr. Stanley Hall, a Sunderland pilot, and Mr. H. N. Davies, a radar expect employed by Kelvin Hughes, Ltd. To be known as the Davies-Hall Radar and has been installed at Sunderland pilot house. With the system it is possible to ascertain, within 2½ minutes, the speed and course of ships up to 22 miles at sea.

The anomoritments are announced by Coast Lines, Ltd., of Mr. L. W. S. Grinling as chief general manager, Mr. H. G. Sorrell, and Mr. C. V. Jones, joint general managers, Mr. H. G. J. R. Turner, commercial manager, Liverpool, and Mr. N. E. Harper as manager at Plymouth. Mr. D. S. Kinnear has been appointed manager, West Wales, and will be responsible for the ports of Milford Haven and Fishguard.

Arrica 40 years' service with Richardsons, Westgarth & Co., Ltd., Mr. W. E. Loveridge is to retire from the position of resident director at the Hartlebool works at the end of September. He will retain his seat on the board. His successor as resident director is Mr. T. P. Everett, who has been with the company for many years.

The address of the Bolton Steam Shipping Co., Ltd., is now Plantation House, Mineing Lane, London, E.C.3. Telephone: AVEnue 3255; telegrams: Terse, Fen, London,

The possibility of salvaging about 125 vessels sunk off the Atlantic coast during the last war is being considered by the United States Maritime Administration. If found feasible, the salvage operations would be performed under competitive bids, the salvor assuming all costs and expenses and paying the Government a percentage of the net proceeds derived from the sale of the property salvaged. The first ships to be offered would be two tankers sunk off the Gulf coast.

Mr. C. H. Davy has been appointed works director at Renfrew and Dumbarton works of Babcock & Wilcox, Ltd., and Mr. T. B. Webb has been made chie research engineer. Mr. I. M. Lvon continues as general manager of Renfrew and Dumbarton works. Mr. Davy, who has been chief research engineer of the company since 1932, was appointed a director of the company in 1947.

THE Marconi International Marine Communication Co., Ltd., announces the appointment of Mr. J. T. Marler as

manager of the operating division. Mr. Marler joined the staff in 1907, and in 1930 was appointed chief of the operating section, and became assistant service manager, operating and traffic, in 1947. Mr. Marler will continue to serve on the Radio Officers' Panel of the National Maritim: Board.

The Economic Cooperation Administration is to ask the U.S. Maritime Administration to withdraw a further 35 Liberty vessels from the reserve fleets during October. There is understood to be a strong possibility that the E.C.A. may ask for another 30 reserve ships fleet to be put into service during November, to meet the urgent coal needs of Western Europe.

Mr. F. R. Mason, principal representative of the Metropolitan-Vickers Electrical Co., Ltd., at Trafford Park since 1948, has been appointed a director. In 1945, he was appointed a member of the I.E.E. committee on safety precautions for civil aircraft.

As from October 1, the address of the freight section, agency and publicity departments of Air France will be 52 Haymarket, London, S.W.1. Telephone: WHI:ehall 4455.

A CCORDING to the Fortnightly Review of the Bank of London & South America, at the end of June, over 130 vessels, of 170,000 tons, were either under construction or contracted for by Spanish shipyards. It is expected that orders will be blaced in the near future for up to five large transatlantic liners for the South American service. During the first half of the year 24 ships of 13,000 tons gross were completed.

Agreement has been reached for the acquisition by Tube Investments, Ltd., of the New Conveyor Co., Ltd., of Smethwick, which specialises in the production of all types of mechanical handling equipment. Mr. W. R. Purnell, the present vice-chairman, who has been acting chairman, will become chairman, in addition to continuing as managing director.

AGREEMENT has been reached between the Institute of Chartered Shipbrokers and the Chamber of Shipping for an increase of 15 per cent in the scales of fees applying to tankers under 3,000 tons d.w. The increase took effect as from September 1.

The cargo liner Alsatia, 7,242 tons, formerly the Silver Line's Silverplane, makes her first sailing under the Cunard house flag on October 6 from Liverpool to New York via Boston, In command will be Capt. F. G. Watts.

As from October 1 the address of the head office and the London area sales office of the Northern Aluminium Co., Ltd., will be Bush House, Aldwych, London, W.C.2. Telephone: TEMple Bar 8430; telegrams: Noralco, Estrand. London,

An office is to be opened in Rio de Janeiro by the New York Port Administration for the promotion of trade relations.



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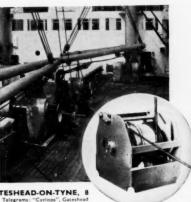
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NOTICE is hereby given, that the Creditors of the above-named Company are required, on or before the rith day of October, 1951 to send in their names and addresses, with particulars of their Debts or Claims, and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned, Cyril Pinder, of 24, St. Mary Ase, London, E.C.3, the Liquidator of the said Company, and, if so required by notice in writing by the said Liquidator, are, by their Solicitors or personally, to come in and prove their said Debts or Claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be cyclided from the benefit of any distribution made before such Debts are

d this 30th day of August, 1951.

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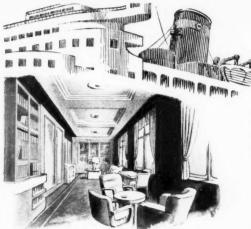
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